Scans By

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OOO-KAY.
WE'LL UNPACK, EAT AND HAVE THE MEETING RIGHT AFTER, OKAY?
HE'S WAITING AT THE HOTEL.
SO THE COORDINATOR'S NOT MEETING US AT THE AIRPORT?
THERE'S ALSO AN INTERVIEW SCHEDULED DURING TOMORROW'S REHEARSAL, SO ..
..HEY
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO FOLLOW ME AROUND?!
YOU'RE SO MEEEEAN! I JUST CAME TO SEE YOU OFF!
WHAT HAPPENED TO TAKESHI?
HUH?

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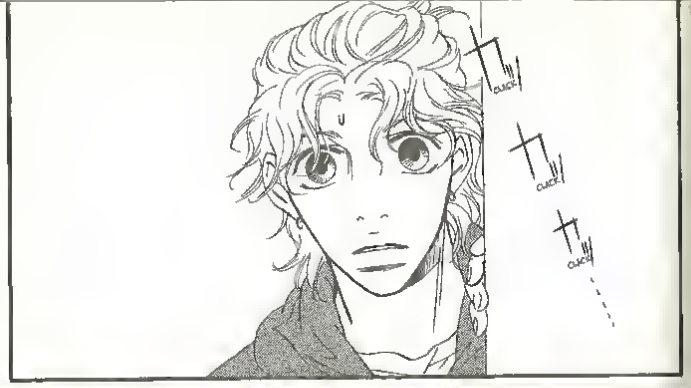

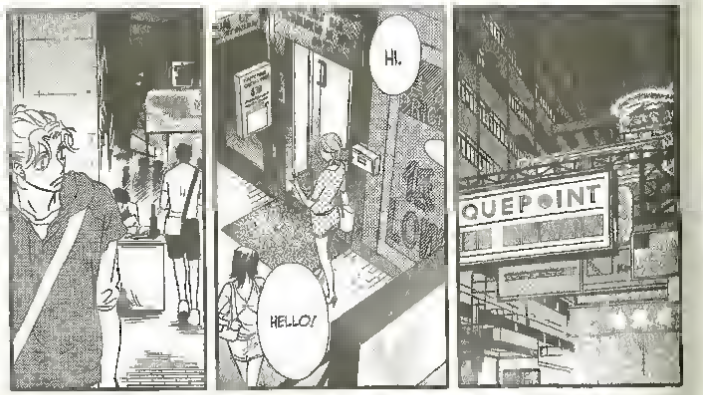

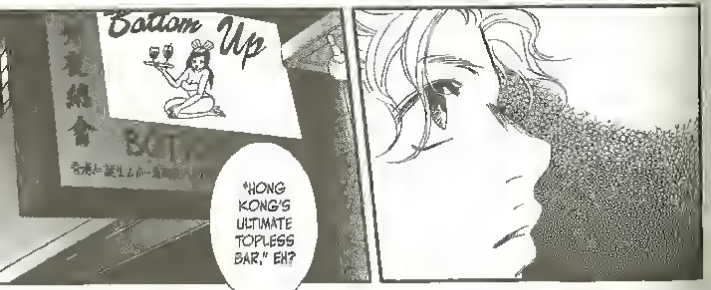

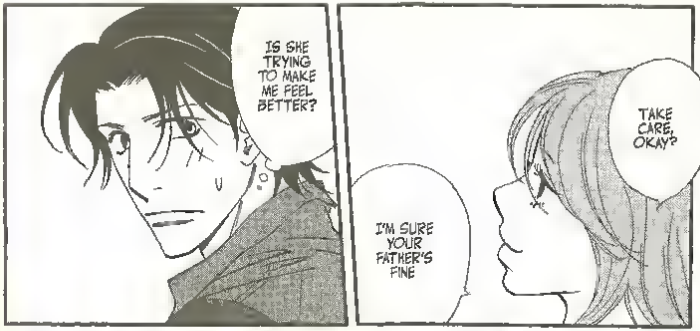

*A PORK AND VEGETABLE MISO SOUP. DOWN-HOME COOKING!

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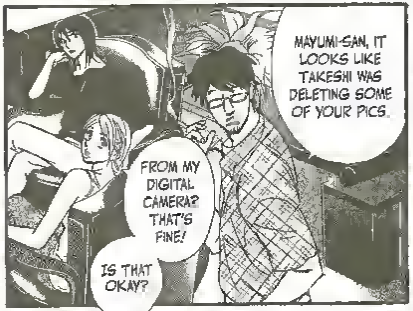
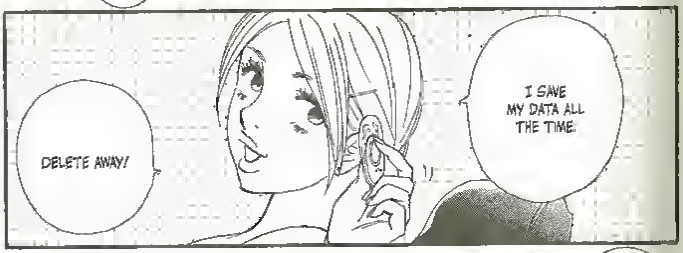
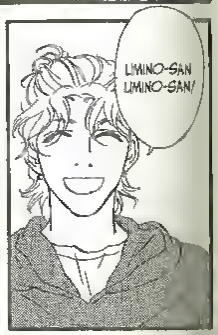
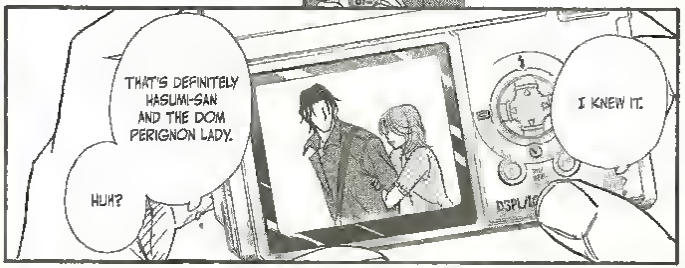






ARE YOU LISTENING, YOU STUPID KID?!
WE WERE ABOUT TO CALL THE COPS, YOU KNOW!
MAYUMI-SAN, CAN I BORROW YOUR DIGITAL CAMERA?
SURE
TAKESHI! WHERE WERE YOU?!



I'LL BE WAITING WITH YOUR FAVORITE-- TONIGHT!
HASUMI-SAN MUST REALLY LIKE BIG BOOBS
SHOULD I SAY SOME-THING?
IS SHE HIS HONG KONG CONCUBINE?
THAT MEANS THEY'RE LIVING TOGETHER.

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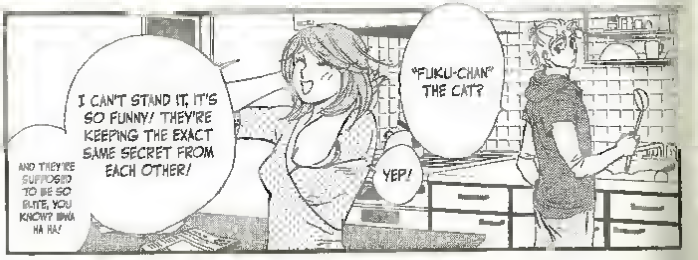
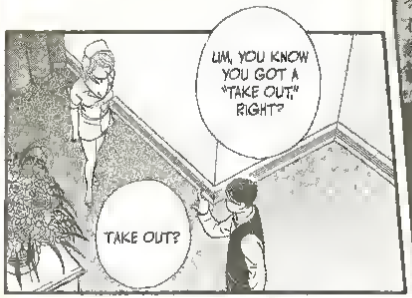
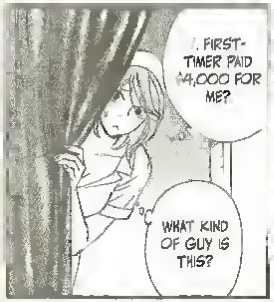
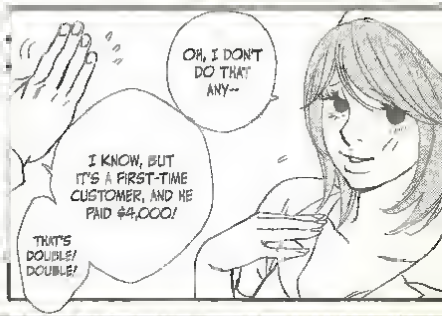
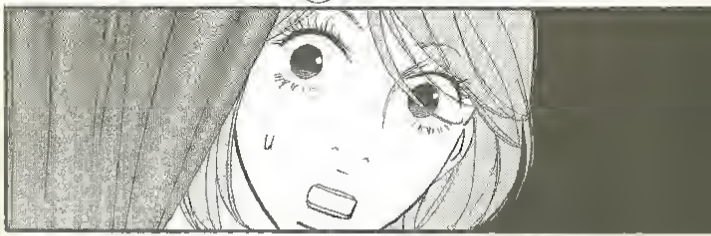

I CAN'T STAND IT, IT'S SO FUNNY! THEY'RE KEEPING THE EXACT SAME SECRET FROM EACH OTHER!
AND THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SO CUTE, YOU KNOW? UWA HA HA!
"FUKU-CHAN" THE CAT?
YEP!

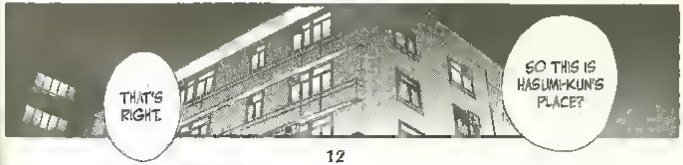
I'D LOVE TO SEE THAT DOLL'S FACE OF HERS GET ALL TWISTED WITH PAIN.
I WONDER WHAT IWAYA-SAN WOULD DO IF SHE FOUND OUT?
IT'S NOT LIKE SHE COULD GET MAD, RIGHT? I MEAN, SHE'S DOING THE SAME THING.











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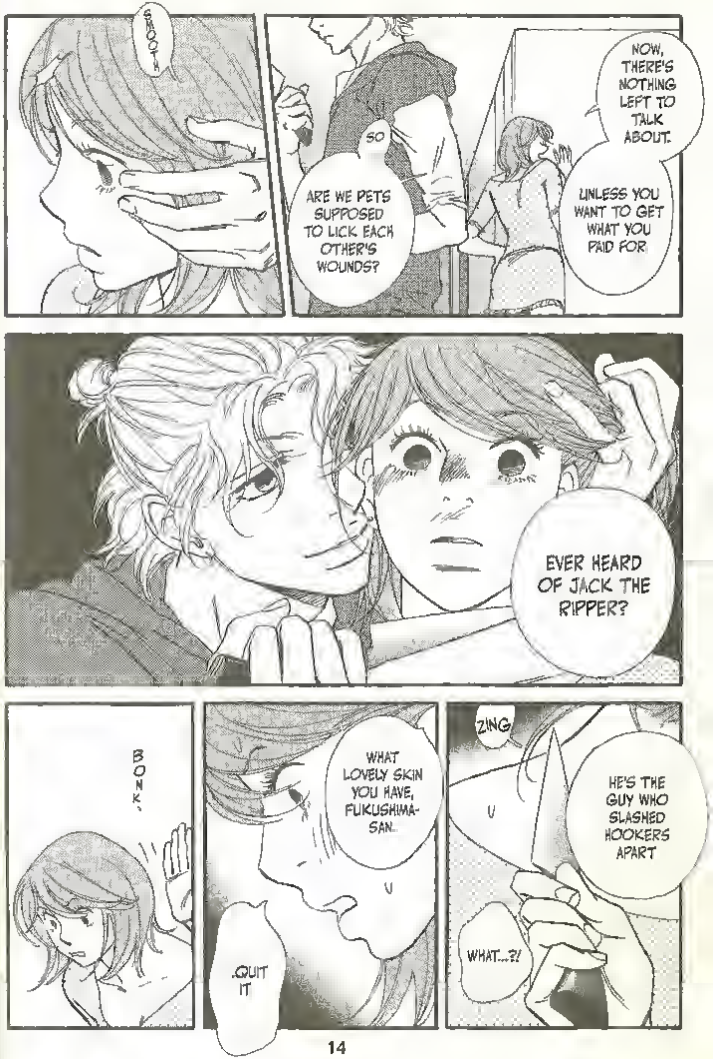
JUST KIDDING! ♡
DID I SCARE YA?
BUT I LOVE HASUMI-KUN, TOO, IN MY WAY
CLINK
YOU KNOW...
..THAT I LOVE SUMIRE-CHAN
SO IF YOU HURT EITHER OF THEM, I'LL KILL YOU.
SHOOP
GOOD NIGHT.
YOUR TREAT NEXT TIME, OKAY?
AND DON'T THINK THE ALL PETS ASSOCIATION WON'T TAKE ACTION IF YOU DON'T KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!


SHOOP
SO ARE WE PETS SUPPOSED TO LICK EACH OTHER'S WOUNDS?
NOW, THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO TALK ABOUT.
UNLESS YOU WANT TO GET WHAT YOU PAID FOR.
EVER HEARD OF JACK THE RIPPER?
BONK.
WHAT LOVELY SKIN YOU HAVE, FUKUSHIMA-SAN.
..QUIT IT
ZING
HE'S THE GUY WHO SLASHED HOOKERS APART
WHAT...?!

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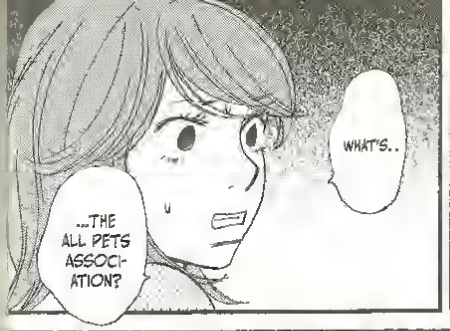

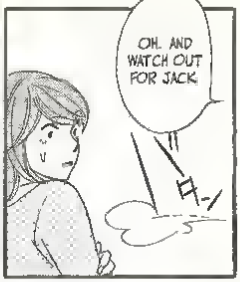

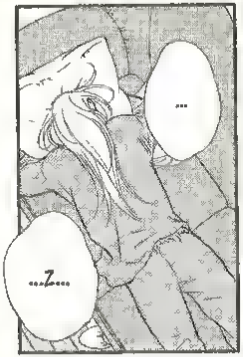

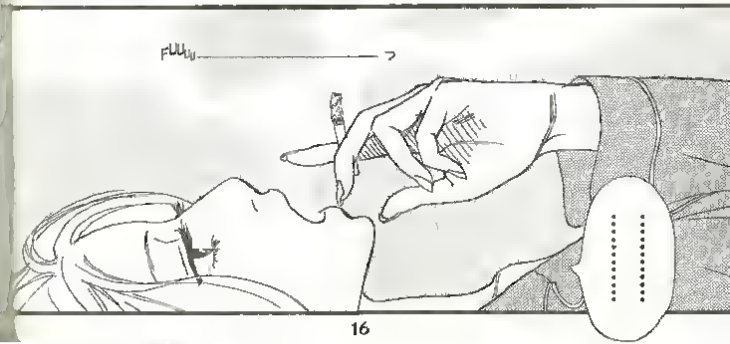

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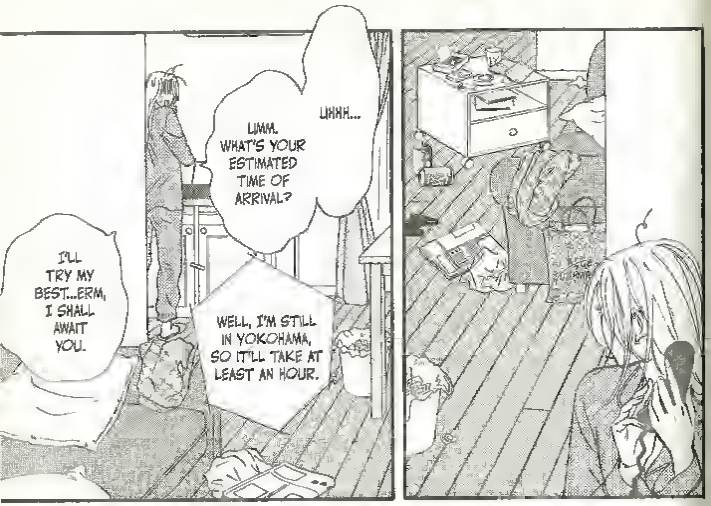
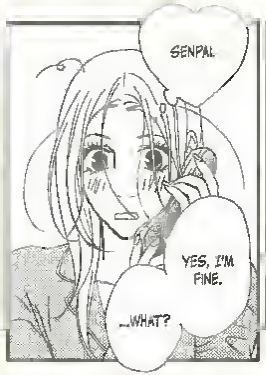
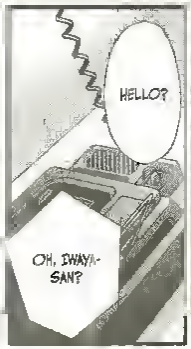
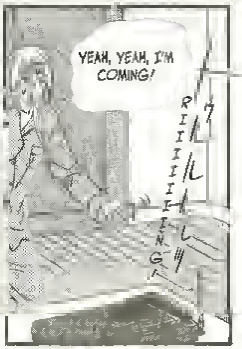
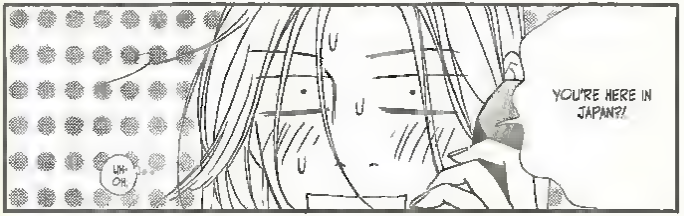
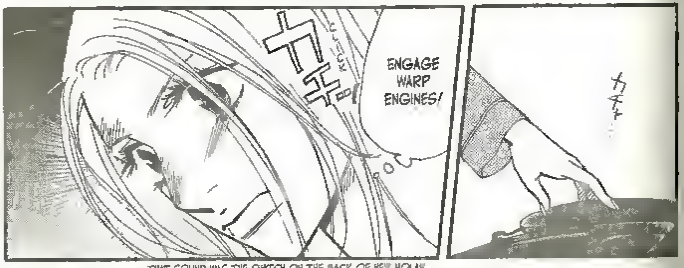

UHHH...
UMM. WHAT'S YOUR ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL?
I'LL TRY MY BEST...ERM, I SHALL AWAIT YOU.
WELL, I'M STILL IN YOKOHAMA, SO IT'LL TAKE AT LEAST AN HOUR.



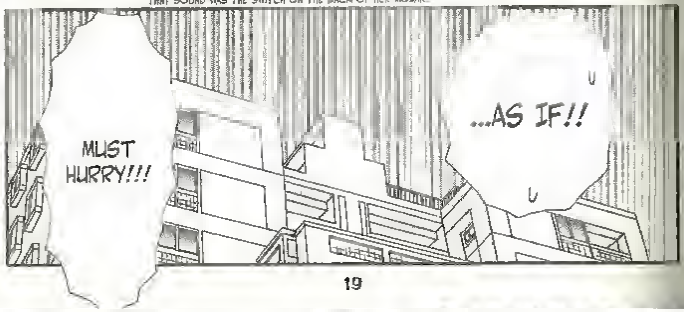








THAT SOUND WAS THE SWITCH ON THE BACK OF HER MOLAR.



MY DAD COLLAPSED FROM A STROKE, SO I RUSHED HOME.
WITH ALL THE EXCITEMENT, I COULDN'T CALL YOU TILL NOW SORRY.
BUT WE DIDN'T NEED TO WORRY. THEY GOT TO HIM RIGHT AWAY.

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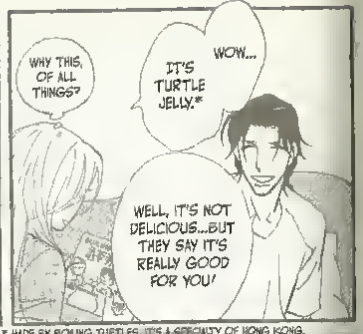
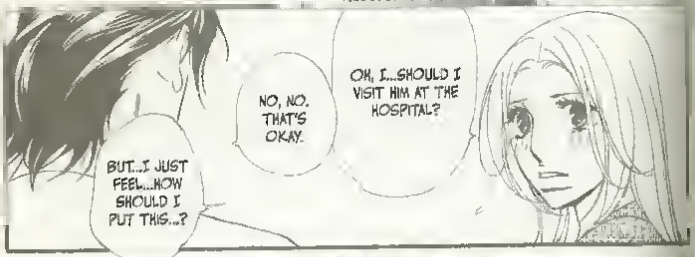
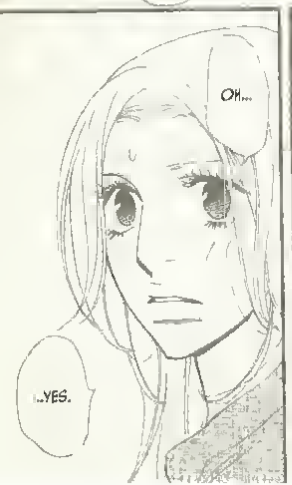
HE'S STILL IN THE HOSPITAL SO THEY CAN RUN TESTS, BUT HE'S FINE
OH...HOW IS YOUR FATHER DOING?
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BAD IF MORE TIME HAD ELAPSED, THOUGH.
SNIFF SNIFF
GURLING GAO



* MADE BY BOILING TURTLES. IT'S A SPECIALTY OF HONG KONG.





CHAPTER 1

OH, NO. THAT IS...
...I HAD SOMETHING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT ANYWAY.
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE INVITED MYSELF OVER DURING YOUR DAY OFF.
...BORROWED THE DOG FIRST THING

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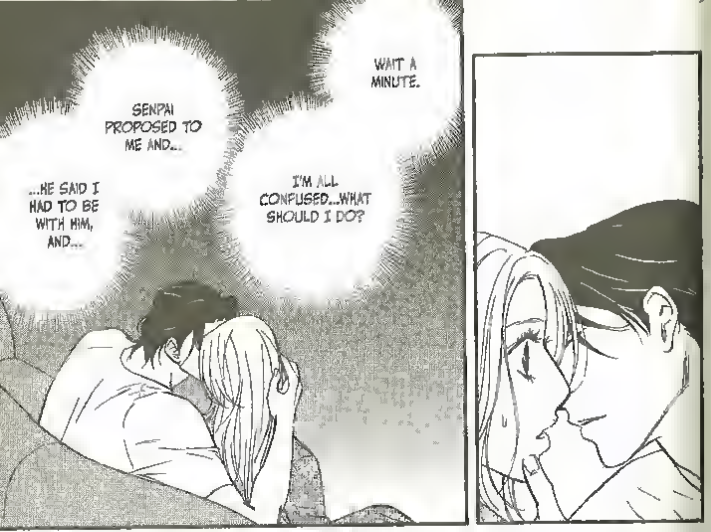

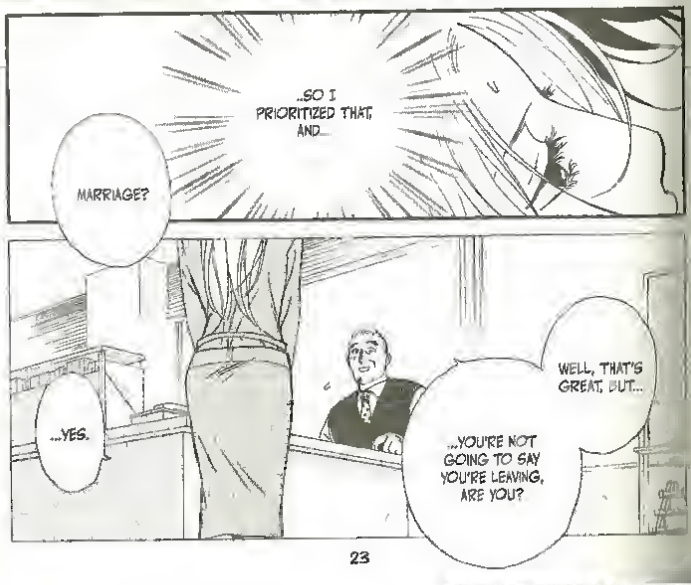

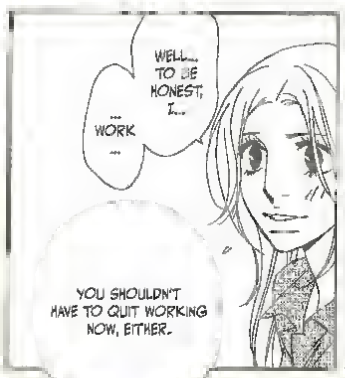

UNLESS...
WHAT DID HE MEAN BY THAT?
WHAT'S HE SAYING?
YOU'RE BUSY, TOO, AND WE JUST SHOULDN'T RUSH THINGS RIGHT NOW ANYWAY.
ACTUALLY, YOU KNOW, I THINK IT'D BE BEST IF YOU WAITED UNTIL THINGS CALMED DOWN A BIT TO MEET MY PARENTS.

I MEAN, YOUR BOSS HAS FINALLY RECOGNIZED YOUR MERITS, AND...
...I JUST DON'T THINK WE HAVE TO RUSH THINGS, YOU KNOW?
WE'LL JUST STAY LIKE THIS FOR A WHILE, AND I'LL TRY TO SEE YOU AS MUCH AS I CAN.

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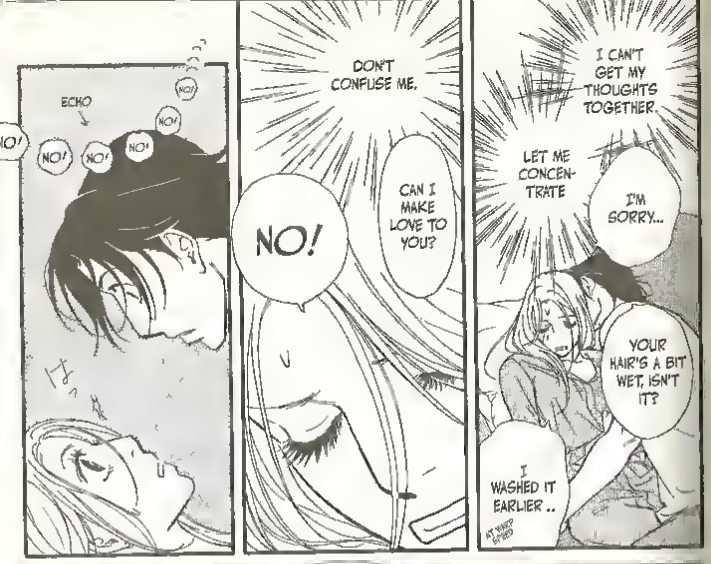
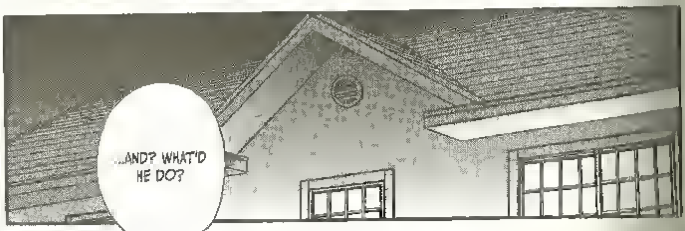
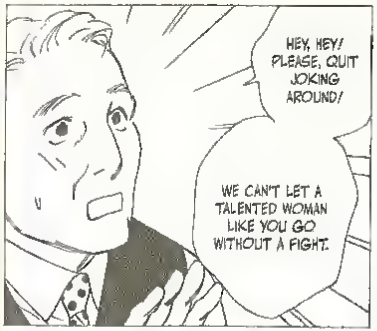
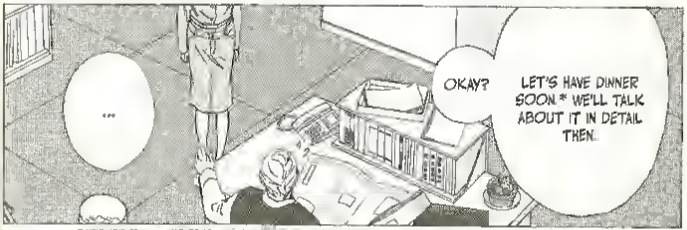
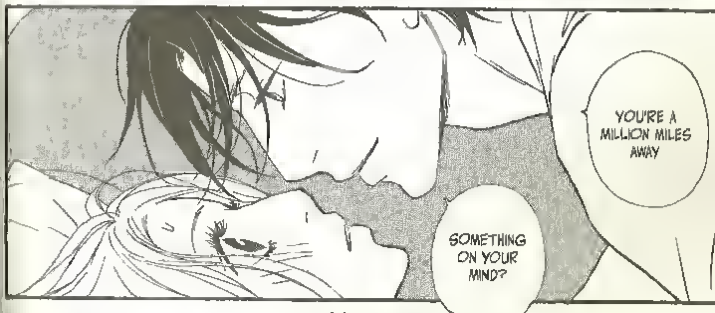








* HE'S NOT SEXUALLY HARASSING HER! JAPANESE PEOPLE OFTEN DISCUSS WORK OVER DINNER



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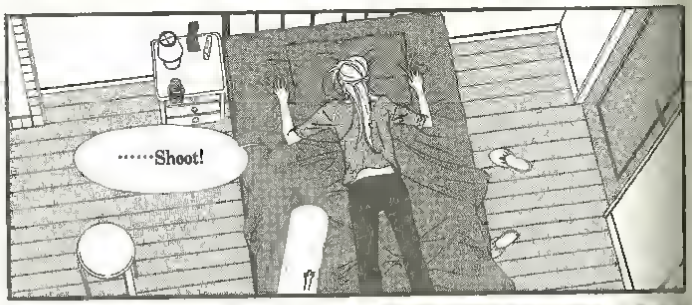
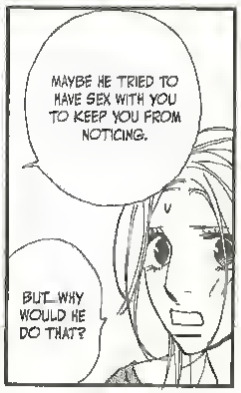


HE'S TRYING AND TRYING, BUT YOU'RE NOT LETTING HIM IN
HE'LL GET SEXUALLY FRUSTRATED YOU KNOW.
SAY, WHY DO YOU THINK HE CHANGED HIS MIND ABOUT MY JOB?
OH, LEAVE ME ALONE.

BROUGHT NICK BACK
THAT "AAAS IF.." WAS THE CLINCHER, HUH?
HE HAD SOME TEA AND WENT HOME HE SEEMED FINE, BUT...
I GUESS HE WAS REALLY SHOCKED.

HE'LL RUN AWAY
WHEN THE MOMENT TO REALLY COMMIT CAME, HE GOT SCARED. IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME. BUT YOU CAN'T PUSH HIM WHEN THAT HAPPENS, OKAY?
BUT THAT'S...BUT SENPAI WAS THE ONE WHO SAID HE WANTED TO GET MARRIED! SO I...
WOW. THAT IS SO NOT CUTE.



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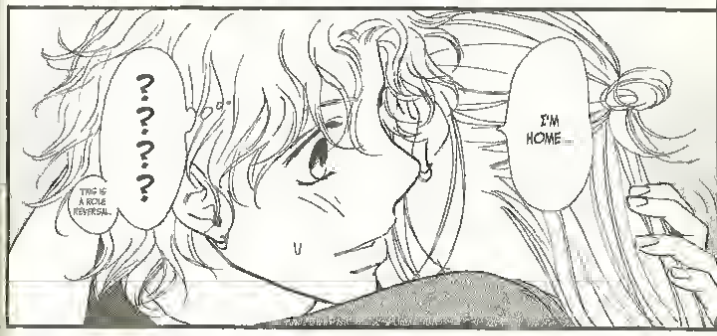

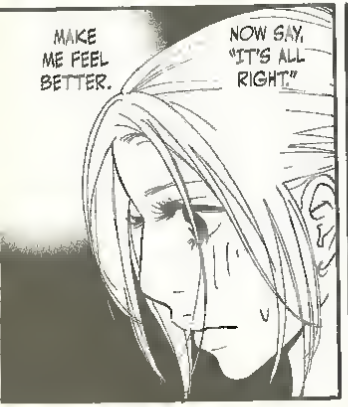

NO ...I'M OKAY.
YOU MUST BE TIRED, ARE YOU HUNGRY?
AT LEAST I STILL HAVE MOMO!
HERE, I GOT YOU SOME TURTLE JELLY
AFTER ALL, IT'S MOMO!
MOMO WILL SAY EVERYTHING'S OKAY
MOMO WILL MAKE IT ALL BETTER.

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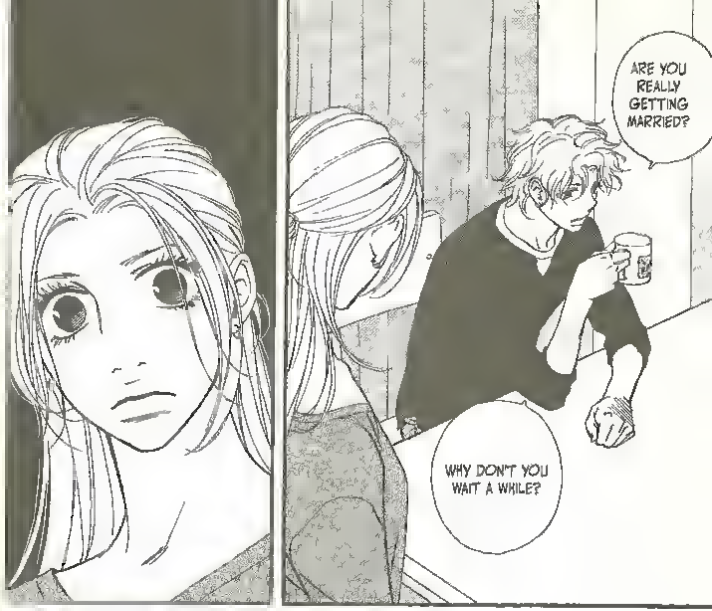
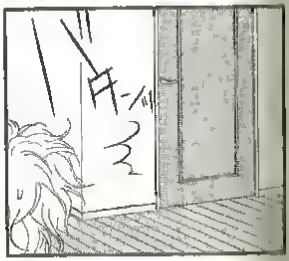


WHY ARE YOU SAYING THAT?
...SUMIRE-CHAN, ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH QUITTING WORK?
BECAUSE..
I CAN'T SAY IT'S 'CAUSE HE'S GOT A GIRL OVER THERE.

...SUMIRE-CHAN, ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH QUITTING WORK?
...I DON'T THINK WE HAVE TO RUSH THINGS, YOU KNOW?
WHAT DO YOU REALLY WANT?
ALL OF YOU..
WHAT'S WITH EVERYONE?



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UNEXPECTEDLY POSITIVE MOOD
BUT THE EFFECT WASN'T ENTIRELY BAD.
I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO BE HAPPY! THAT'LL SHOW THEM!
REALLY! DEFINITELY!
...I'VE FAILED IN MY DUTIES AS A PET.
...THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...
DOESN'T NEED HIM!
AFTER I STOPPED WORRYING ABOUT HER, I BEGAN TO FEEL REALLY LONELY.
BEING A PET SUCKED TODAY.
HIS THREAT WORKED WELL, IT SEEMS!
IT BUGS ME SO MUCH I CAN'T SLEEP!
WHAT THE HELL IS THE ALL PETS ASSOCIATION?!

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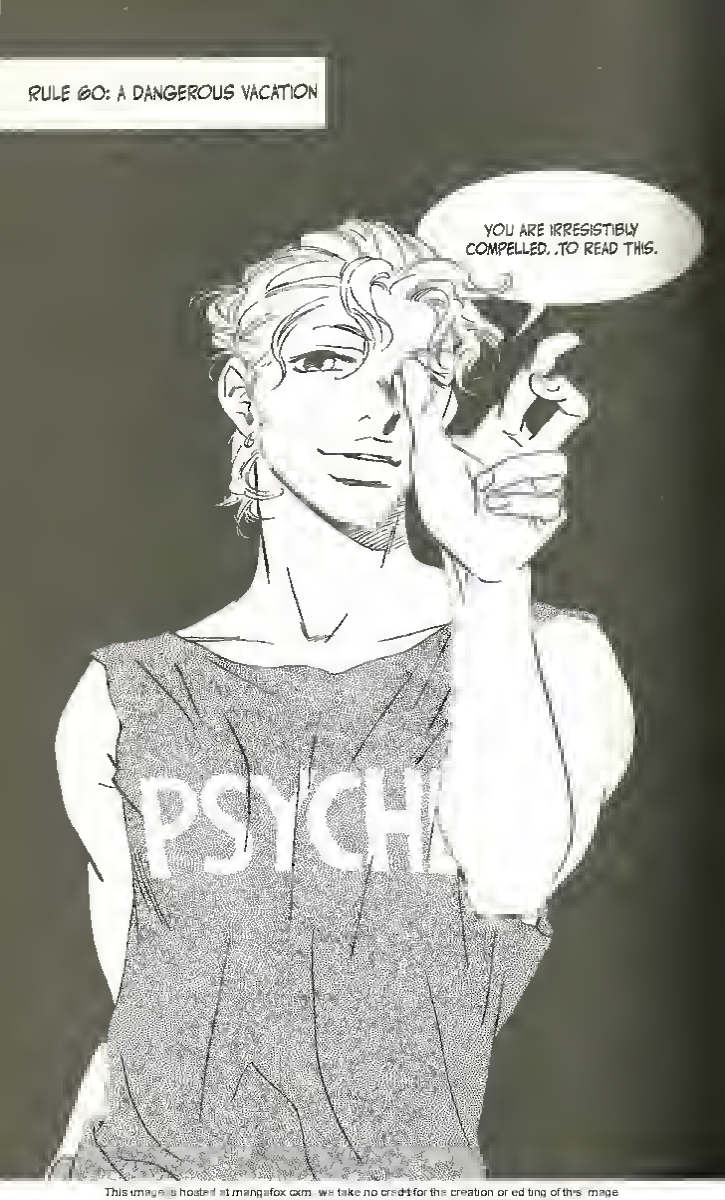

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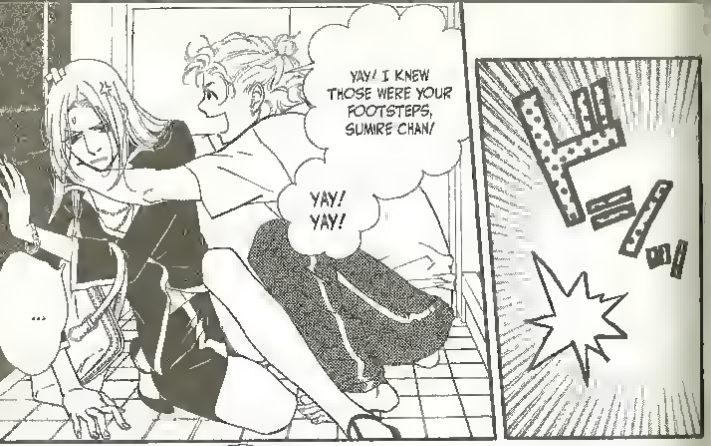
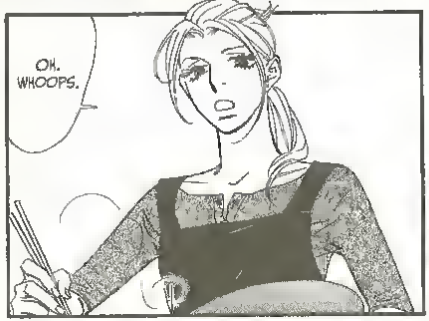
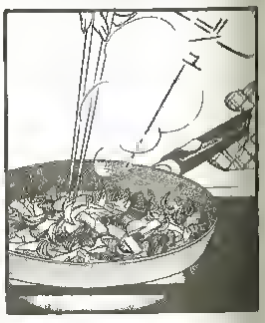
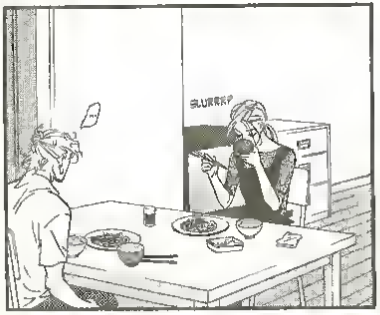
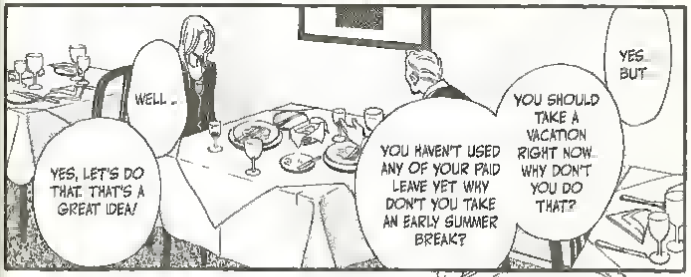


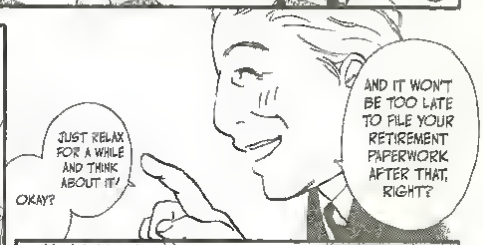


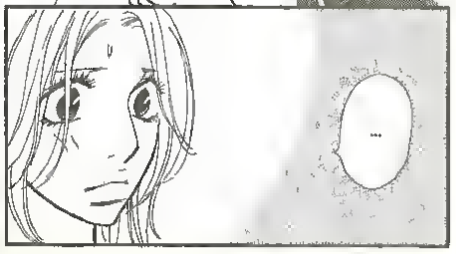




YOU AREN'T EVEN USED TO THE OFFICE YET, AND SUDDENLY YOU HAVE A DESK STAFF OF FOREIGNERS, EVEN!
SO OF COURSE YOU'RE A LITTLE STRESSED!
YOU'RE JUST TIRED, IWAYA-KUN


WELL...
YES, LET'S DO THAT. THAT'S A GREAT IDEA!
YOU HAVEN'T USED ANY OF YOUR PAID LEAVE YET WHY DON'T YOU TAKE AN EARLY SUMMER BREAK?
YOU SHOULD TAKE A VACATION RIGHT NOW. WHY DON'T YOU DO THAT?
YES, BUT...





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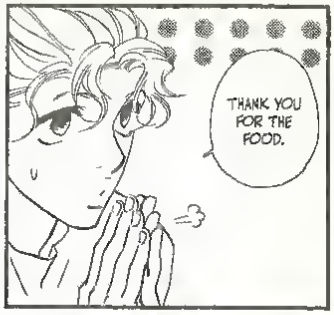
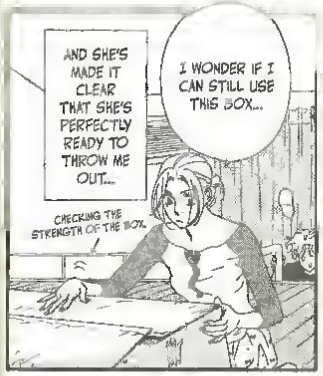
...I DON'T THINK SHE REALLY INTENDS TO.
...I DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING TO HONG KONG RIGHT NOW.
THIS IS NO GOOD. EVEN IF I GET A WEEK OF VACATION, AT THIS TIME OF YEAR...
UNCONSCIOUSLY PETTING HIM.
SIGH
HM
MAYBE I'LL GO AND SEE THE OCEAN...
SUMIRE-CHAN!!
OOF!




AND SHE'S MADE IT CLEAR THAT SHE'S PERFECTLY READY TO THROW ME OUT...
I WONDER IF I CAN STILL USE THIS BOX...
CHECKING THE STRENGTH OF THE BOX.

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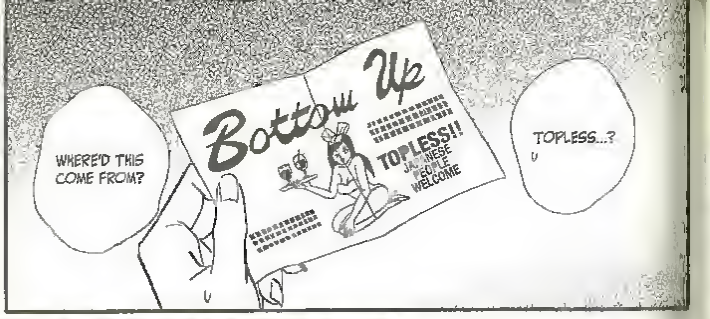
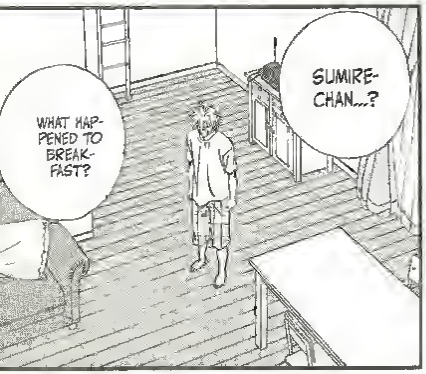
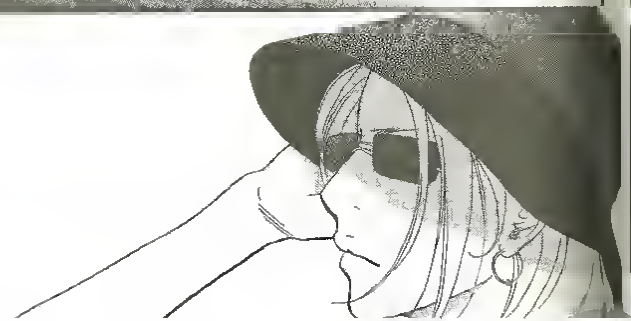


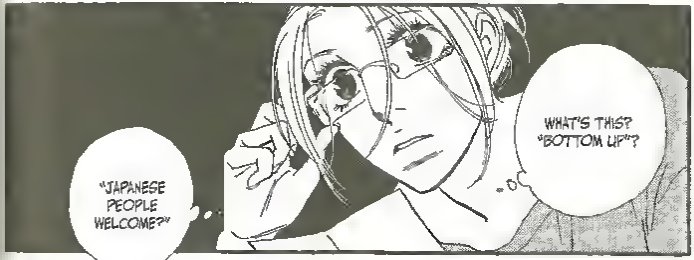




NOW...SHOULD WE TRY "EXCESS BAGGAGE: A BED AND BREAKFAST" OR "PENSIONE LYRICAL POETRY"...?
SQUEE! A HOT SPRINGS RESORT THAT ALLOWS PETS!
FINE. I'LL GO TO THE BEACH, BY MYSELF!

SOME MYSTERIOUS FORCE IS GUIDING ME... MAYBE IT'S A GHOST...
WHERE SHOULD WE GO? ATAMI? A HIKOUKAN*?
LET'S GO! LET'S GO TO THE BEACH!
ENOUGH WITH THESE WEIRD EXCUSES TO IGNORE ME!

*ATAMI IS A "ROMAN SEXSHE HOT SPRINGS RESORT. A HIKOUKAN IS A HISTORICAL SEX MUSEUM.



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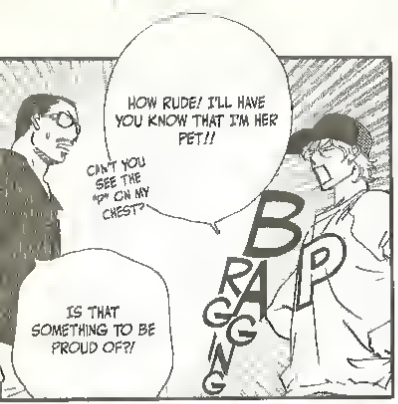

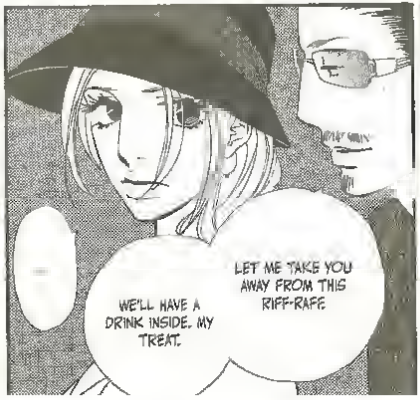

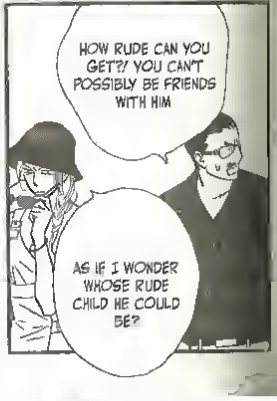

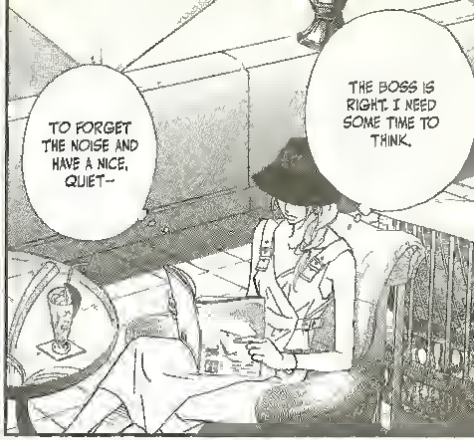

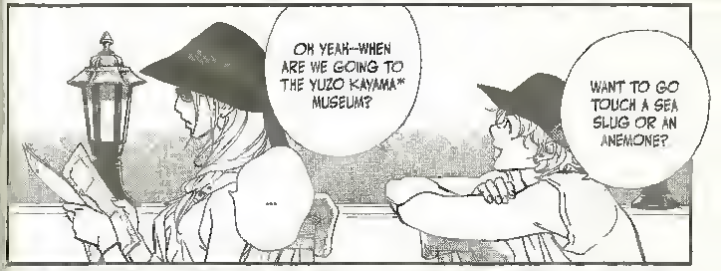

*YUZO KAYAMA IS A SINGER OF ENKA MUSIC, A STYLE POPULAR WITH OLDER PEOPLE. SO IT'S A LITTLE LIKE ASKING IF SHE WANTS TO GO SEE THE DICK CLARK MUSEUM, SHE MEANS.

WE'RE STAYING THERE?
"EXCESS BAGGAGE: A BED AND BREAKFAST" IS MUCH CHEAPER, AND STILL NICE, YOU KNOW.
THOUGH YOU DO HAVE TO PAY FOR TOWELS AND A TOOTHBRUSH.
SUMIRE-CHAN, AREN'T YOU NERVOUS STAYING AT THIS LUXURIOUS PLACE?
IGNORE HIM.

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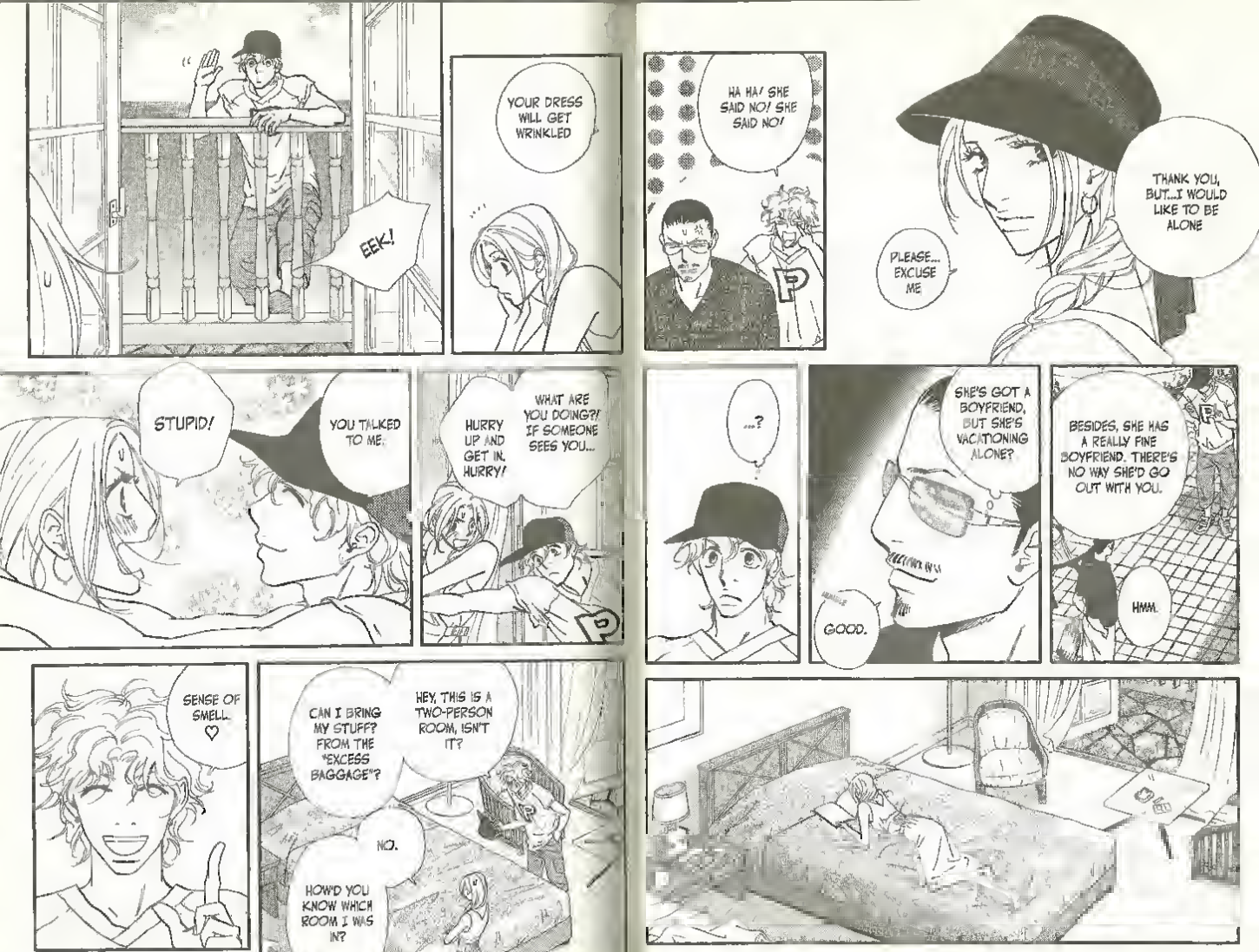
EEK!
YOUR DRESS WILL GET WRINKLED
HA HA! SHE SAID NO! SHE SAID NO!
THANK YOU, BUT...I WOULD LIKE TO BE ALONE
PLEASE... EXCUSE ME
STUPID!
YOU TALKED TO ME.
HURRY UP AND GET IN. HURRY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! IF SOMEONE SEES YOU...
...?
SHE'S GOT A BOYFRIEND, BUT SHE'S VACATIONING ALONE?
GOOD.
BESIDES, SHE HAS A REALLY FINE BOYFRIEND. THERE'S NO WAY SHE'D GO OUT WITH YOU.
HMM.
SENSE OF SMELL. ♡
CAN I BRING MY STUFF? FROM THE "EXCESS BAGGAGE"?
HEY, THIS IS A TWO-PERSON ROOM, ISN'T IT?
NO.
HOW'D YOU KNOW WHICH ROOM I WAS IN?

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WE WERE PLAYING A GAME! I LOST A BET! ARRRGH!
UMINO-SAN MADE ME GO! REALLY! I TRIED TO RESIST, BUT--!
HEY! LISTEN!
HELLO, FRONT DESK? THERE'S A SUSPICIOUS GUY LOITERING IN THE HOTEL.
HE WAS SUSPICIOUS, YOU KNOW. THIS LITTLE PET DOESN'T LIKE PEOPLE LIKE THAT.
OH, YOU KNOW THAT OLD GUY WHO TRIED TO PICK UP ON YOU EARLIER?
I'LL BET HE FEELS THE SAME ABOUT YOU.
I CAN TRACK YOUR SCENT, SUMIRE-CHAN.
THAT'S CREEPY.
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE HUMAN?
...IT SEEMS WE MEET AGAIN.
BUT DON'T WORRY. UNLIKE SOME PEOPLE, I DON'T CUT LOOSE ON VACATION.
HUH? WHAT PEOPLE? GIRLS GONE WILD?
IS THAT YOUR BUSINESS?
SHOULD'VE LEARNED MY LESSON.
OOPS
YOU CAN'T GO OUT WITH HIM, EVEN IF HE TALKS TO YOU AGAIN, OKAY?
REALLY? HOW UNUSUAL.
NO. I CAME HERE ALONE...
YOU'RE ALWAYS ALONE, AREN'T YOU? IS THE PERSON YOU'RE WITH SICK?
"JAPANESE PEOPLE WELCOME. BOTTOM UP!"

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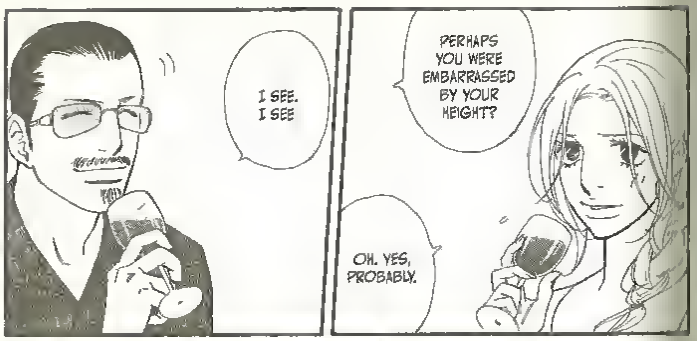
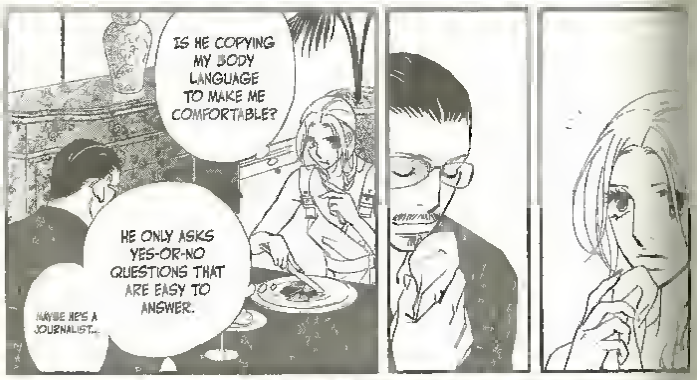
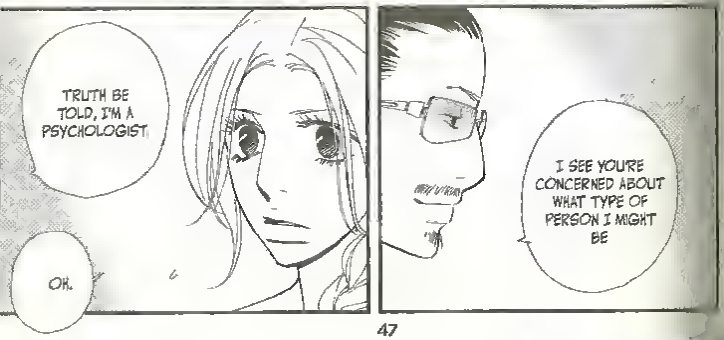
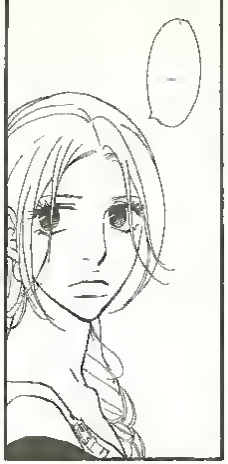
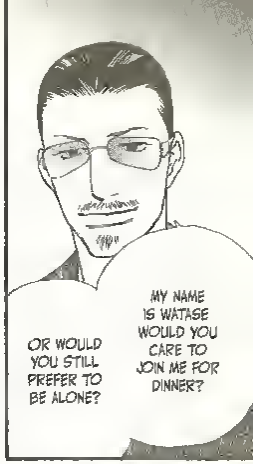


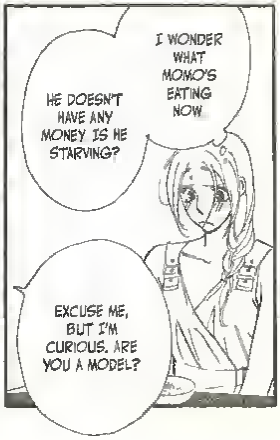

IS HE COPYING MY BODY LANGUAGE TO MAKE ME COMFORTABLE?
HE ONLY ASKS YES-OR-NO QUESTIONS THAT ARE EASY TO ANSWER.
MAYBE HE'S A JOURNALIST...







IS THAT SO? YOU'RE SO SLENDER, AND YOUR POSTURE IS SO GOOD.
HUH?
NO, I'M A NORMAL WHITE-COLLAR WORKER.
OH, MY FRIEND DRILLED GOOD POSTURE INTO ME.
I ALWAYS USED TO SLOUCH.



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I'M FEELING GOOD...IT'S JUST...MY LEGS AREN'T REALLY COOPERATING...
DID YOU DRINK TOO MUCH? HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
I DON'T MIND. PLEASE, RELAX.
I'M SORRY. WHY AM I TALKING ABOUT THIS TO A STRANGER?
HONESTLY, I'M NOT A VERY SKILLED SPEAKER.
NO. IN FACT... IT'S EASY TO TALK WITH YOU.
YOU DO SEEM QUITE SKILLED AT GETTING PEOPLE TO TALK.
IS THAT SO?
DOES IT MAKE YOU UNCOM-FORTABLE?
HA HA. WELL, THAT'S BASICALLY MY PROFESSION.
YOU FEEL GOOD, DON'T YOU? YOU'LL FEEL EVEN BETTER SOON.
NOW, BREATHE IN SLOWLY. .
EXHALE...
I SEE. I SEE.
SENPAI
WHAT'S YOUR ROOM NUMBER?
I'LL WALK YOU TO YOUR ROOM.
ONCE AGAIN, YOU'RE CORRECT
DOES THAT MEAN YOU AREN'T CONFIDENT?
WHAT? LEFTOVER RICE?
OKAY, YOU CAN HAVE SOME
TEE HEE HEE HEE
OH, NO ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO PUT THAT IN YOUR INSTANT NOODLE BROTH?

THE LADIES FROM THE ROOM NEXT DOOR

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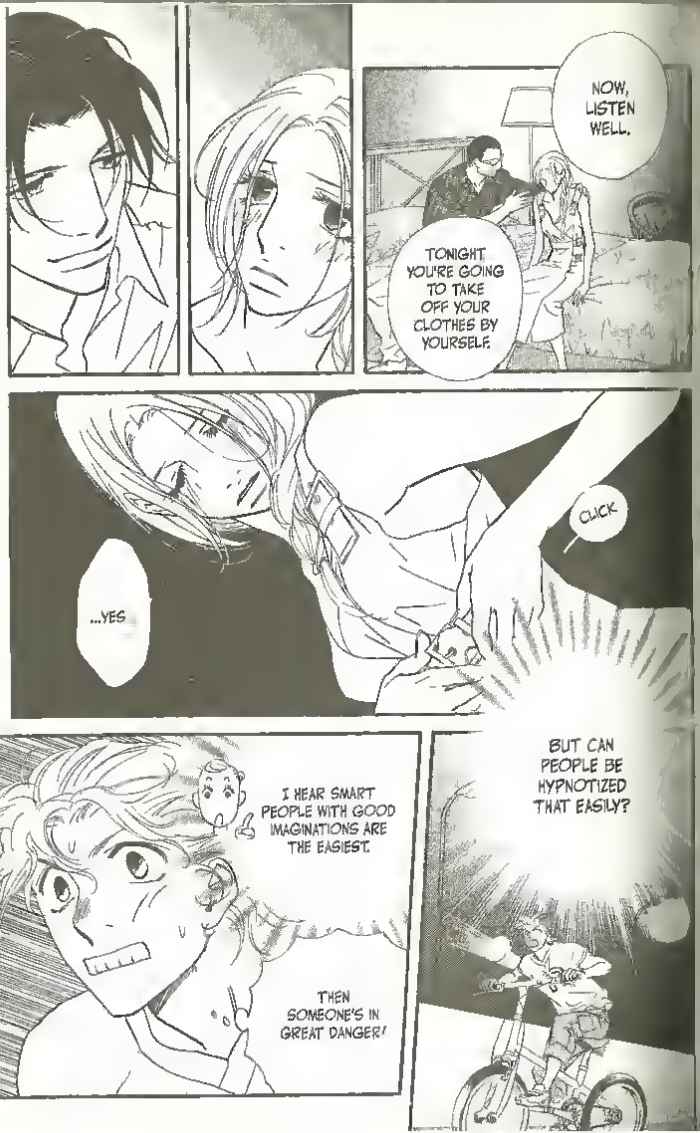
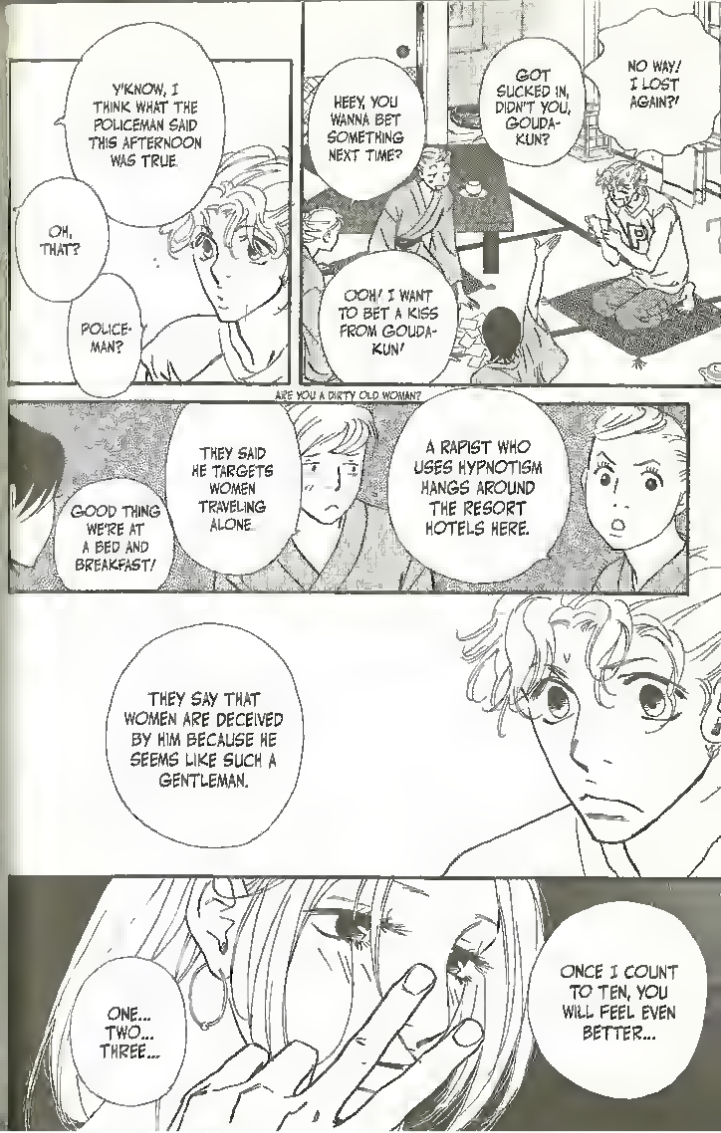

NOW, LISTEN WELL.
TONIGHT YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES BY YOURSELF.
CLICK
...YES
I HEAR SMART PEOPLE WITH GOOD IMAGINATIONS ARE THE EASIEST.
THEN SOMEONE'S IN GREAT DANGER!
BUT CAN PEOPLE BE HYPNOTIZED THAT EASILY?


Y'KNOW, I THINK WHAT THE POLICEMAN SAID THIS AFTERNOON WAS TRUE.
OH, THAT?
POLICE-MAN?
HEEY, YOU WANNA BET SOMETHING NEXT TIME?
GOT SUCKED IN, DIDN'T YOU, GOUDA-KUN?
NO WAY! I LOST AGAIN?!
OOH! I WANT TO BET A KISS FROM GOUDA-KUN!
ARE YOU A DIRTY OLD WOMAN?
GOOD THING WE'RE AT A BED AND BREAKFAST!
THEY SAID HE TARGETS WOMEN TRAVELING ALONE.
A RAPIST WHO USES HYPNOTISM HANGS AROUND THE RESORT HOTELS HERE.
THEY SAY THAT WOMEN ARE DECEIVED BY HIM BECAUSE HE SEEMS LIKE SUCH A GENTLEMAN.
ONE... TWO... THREE...
ONCE I COUNT TO TEN, YOU WILL FEEL EVEN BETTER...

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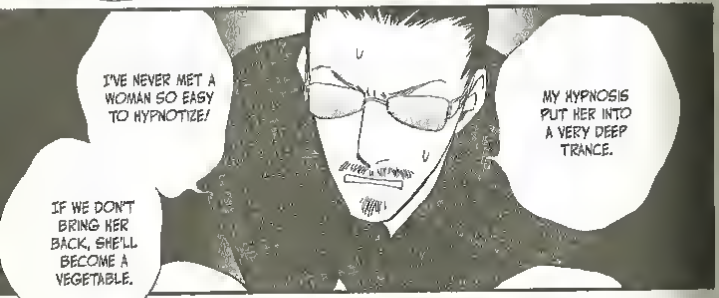
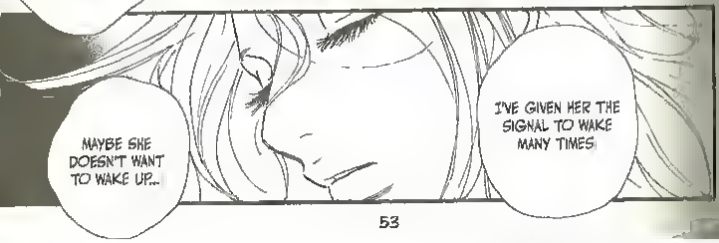
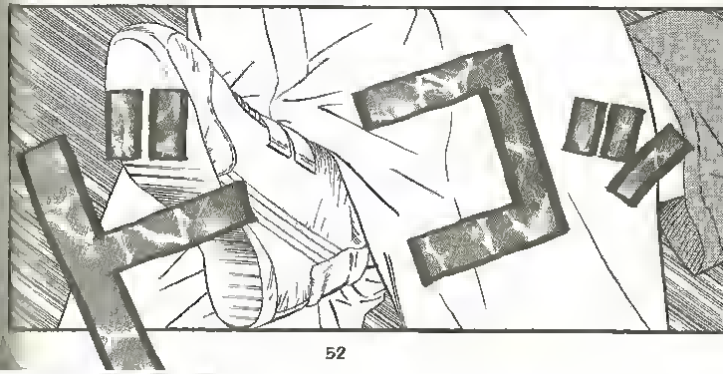

I'VE NEVER MET A WOMAN SO EASY TO HYPNOTIZE!
MY HYPNOSIS PUT HER INTO A VERY DEEP TRANCE.
IF WE DON'T BRING HER BACK, SHE'LL BECOME A VEGETABLE.





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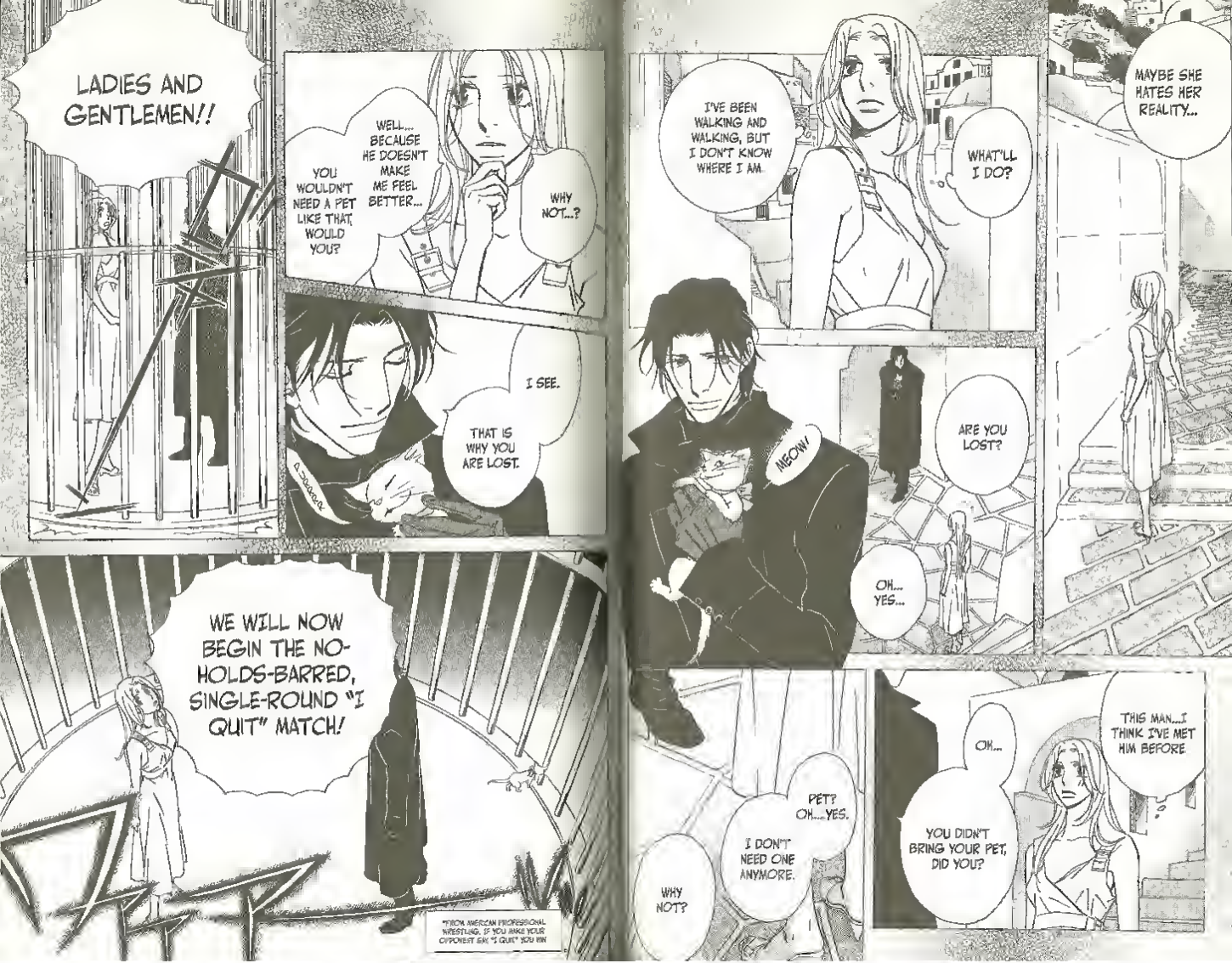
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!!
WELL... BECAUSE HE DOESN'T MAKE ME FEEL BETTER...
YOU WOULDN'T NEED A PET LIKE THAT, WOULD YOU?
WHY NOT...?
I SEE.
THAT IS WHY YOU ARE LOST.
I'VE BEEN WALKING AND WALKING, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE I AM.
WHAT'LL I DO?
MAYBE SHE HATES HER REALITY...
MEOW!
ARE YOU LOST?
OH... YES...
WE WILL NOW BEGIN THE NO-HOLDS-BARRED, SINGLE-ROUND "I QUIT" MATCH!
"FROM AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING. IF YOU MAKE YOUR OPPONENT SAY "I QUIT," YOU WIN
PET? OH....YES.
I DON'T NEED ONE ANYMORE.
WHY NOT?
OH...
YOU DIDN'T BRING YOUR PET, DID YOU?
THIS MAN...I THINK I'VE MET HIM BEFORE

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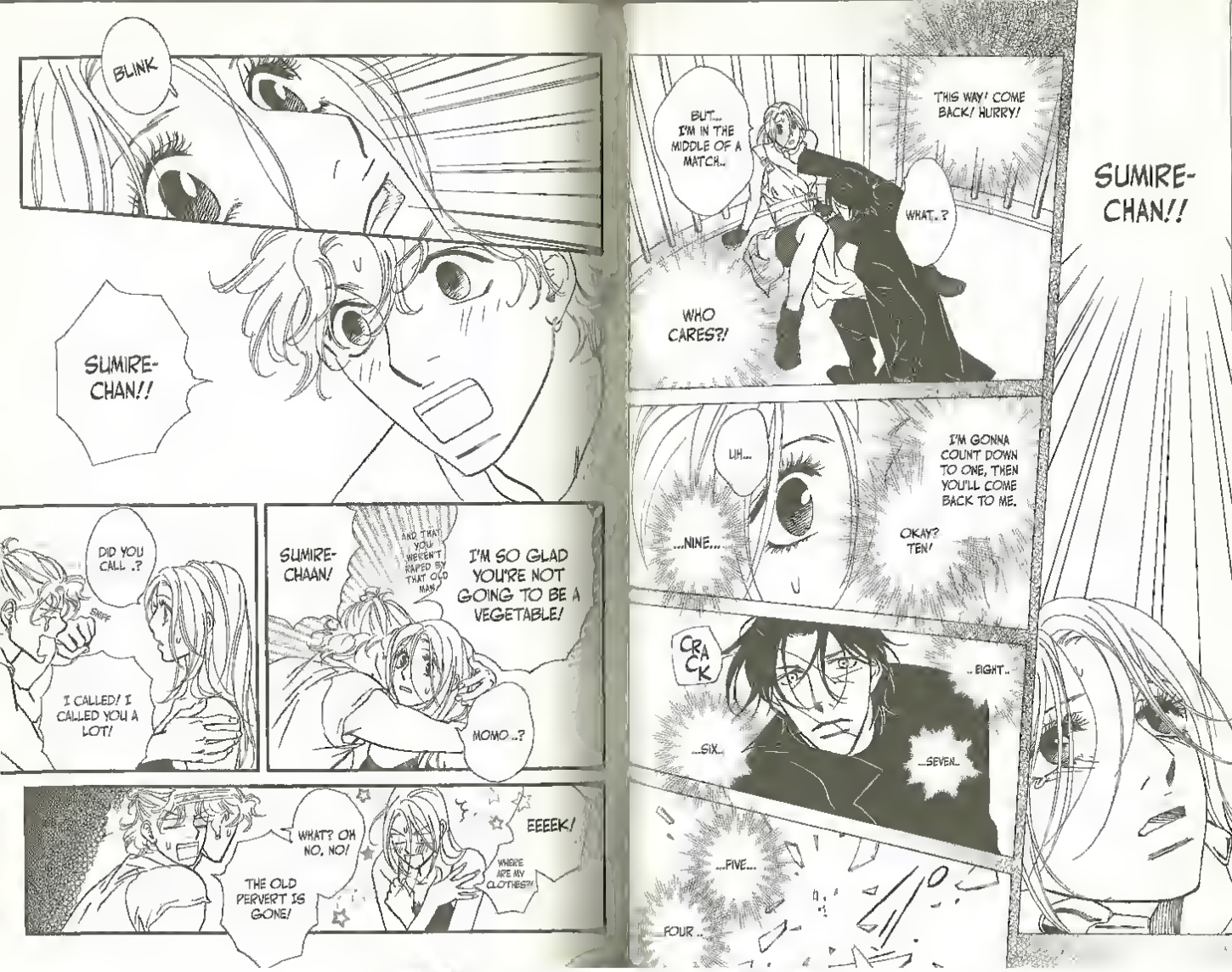

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HE SWORE HE LOVED ALL OF HIS VICTIMS, AND THAT IT WAS ALL CONSENSUAL.
QUICK, RUN! HE'S OBVIOUSLY DANGEROUS!
THE OLD PERVERT WAS ARRESTED SHORTLY AFTER.
SLAM
IT WASN'T M--
CLATTER
AAHH!
SO WE KIND OF MADE UP THAT WAS GOOD. BUT...
SO MY DAYS AREN'T EXACTLY WORRY-FREE.
FILLET* IS LOOKING AT US! HE'S SMILING!
YOU'VE SEEN FINDING NEMO TOO MANY TIMES
...IT APPEARS MY MASTER'S DELUSIONS HAVE GOTTEN WORSE.

*ONE OF HER FISH

TAKE CARE OF YOUR PETS, AND THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU.--A.P.A.

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RULE 61: CONFESSION

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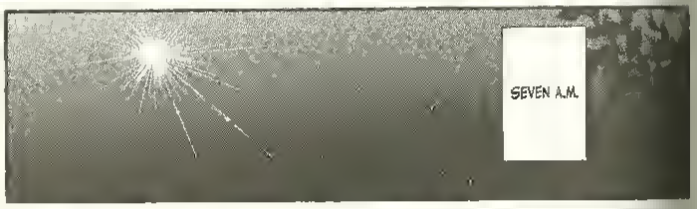

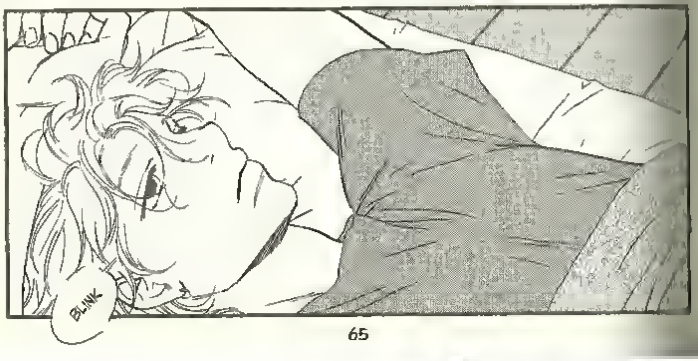

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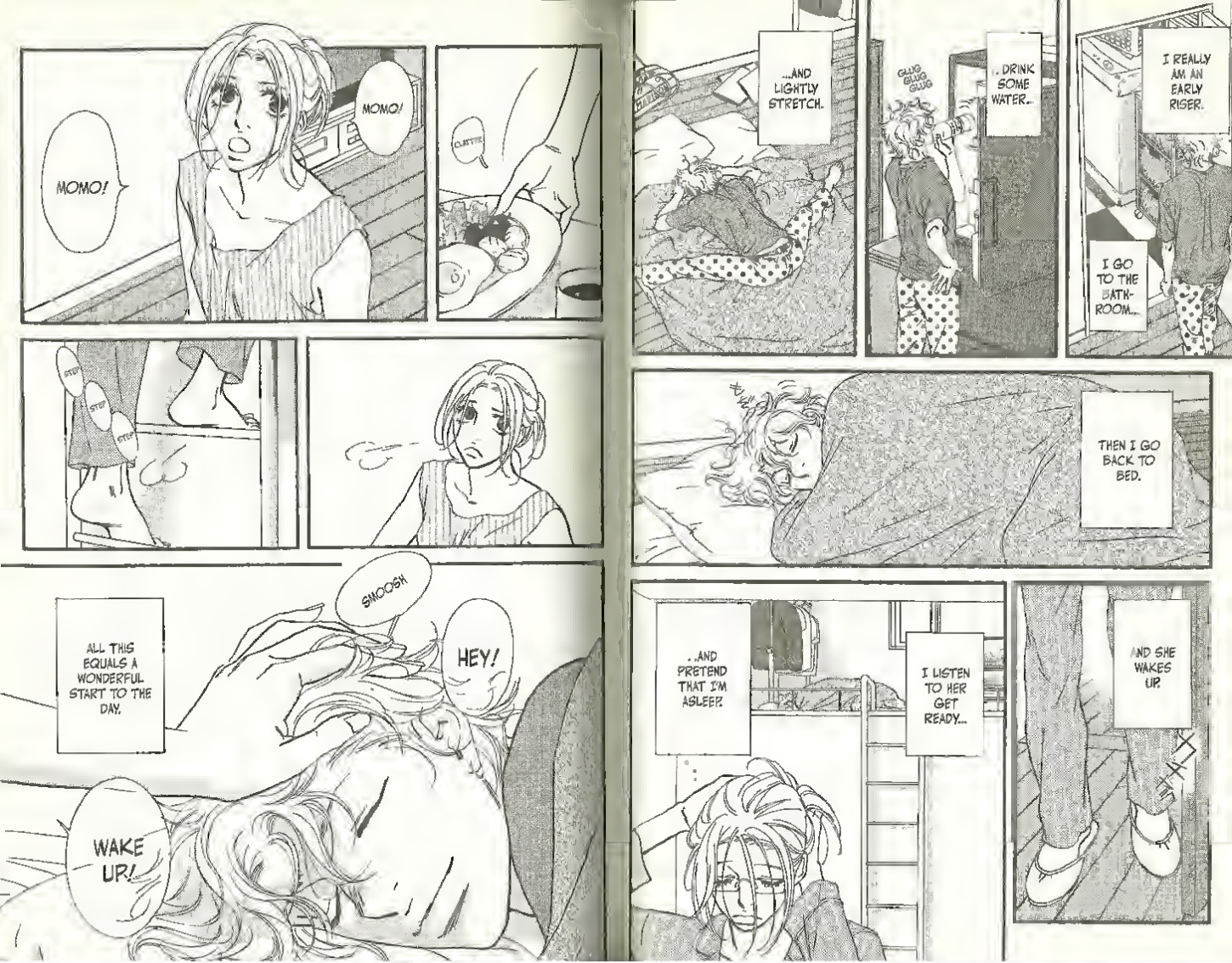

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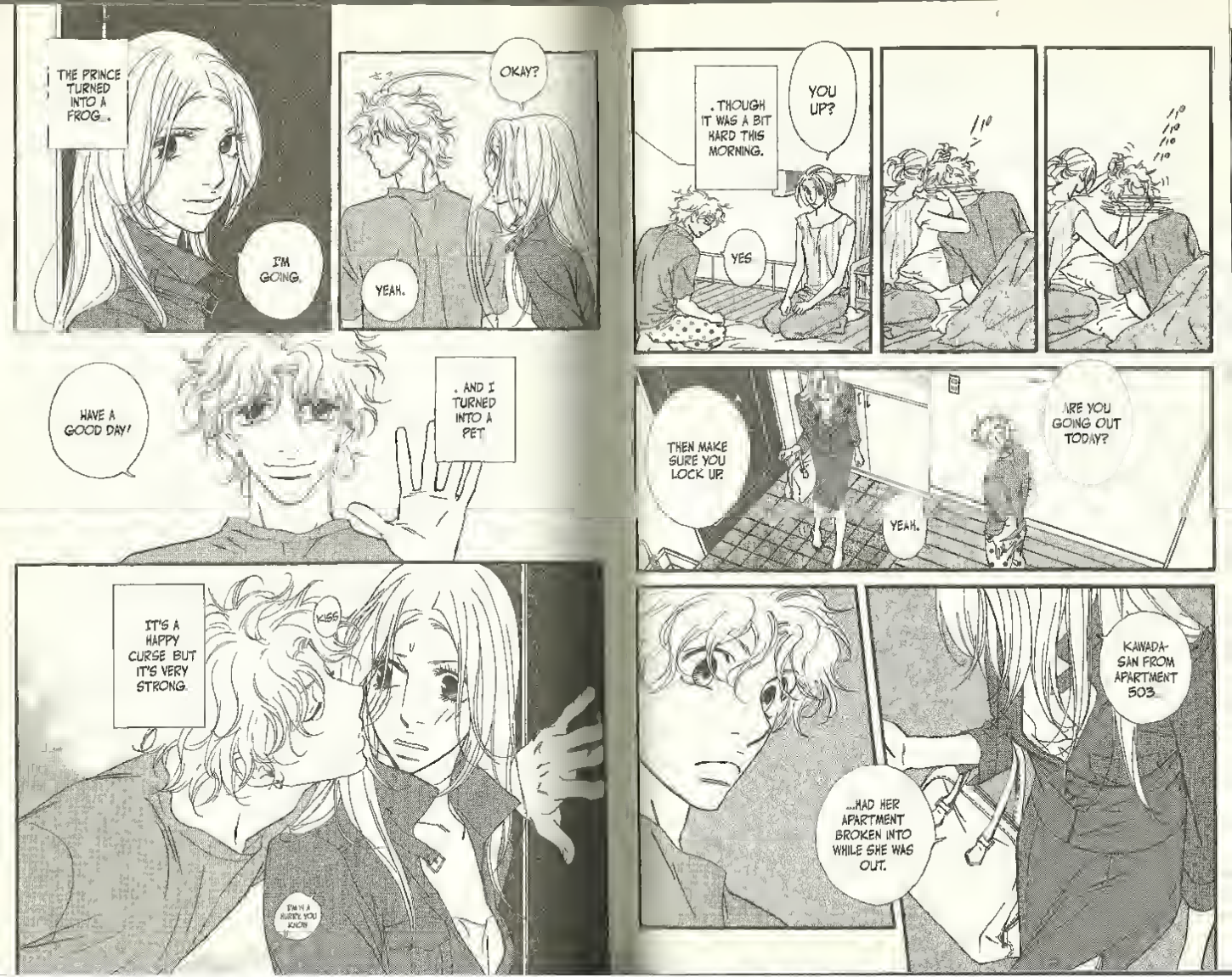
THE PRINCE TURNED INTO A FROG...
I'M GOING.
OKAY?
YEAH.
HAVE A GOOD DAY!
...AND I TURNED INTO A PET
IT'S A HAPPY CURSE BUT IT'S VERY STRONG.
KISS
I'M IN A HURRY. YOU KNOW
...THOUGH IT WAS A BIT HARD THIS MORNING.
YOU UP?
YES
THEN MAKE SURE YOU LOCK UP.
YEAH.
ARE YOU GOING OUT TODAY?
...HAD HER APARTMENT BROKEN INTO WHILE SHE WAS OUT.
KAWADA-SAN FROM APARTMENT 503

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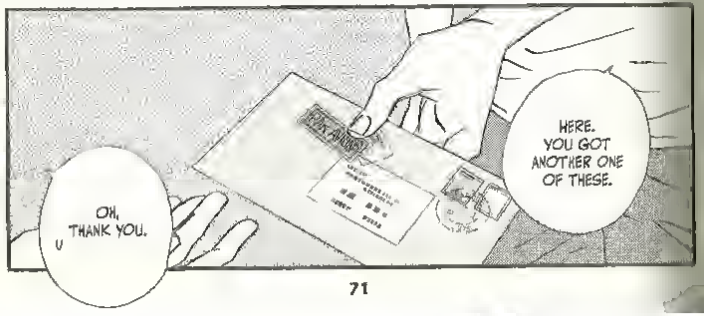

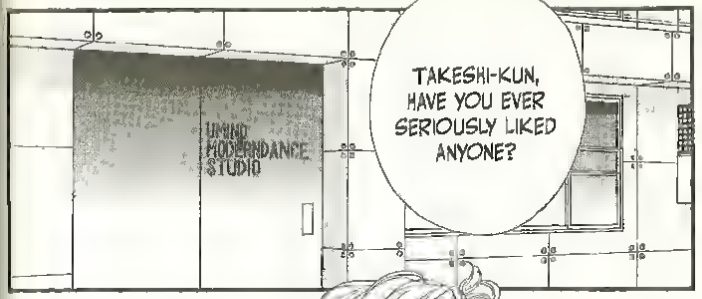

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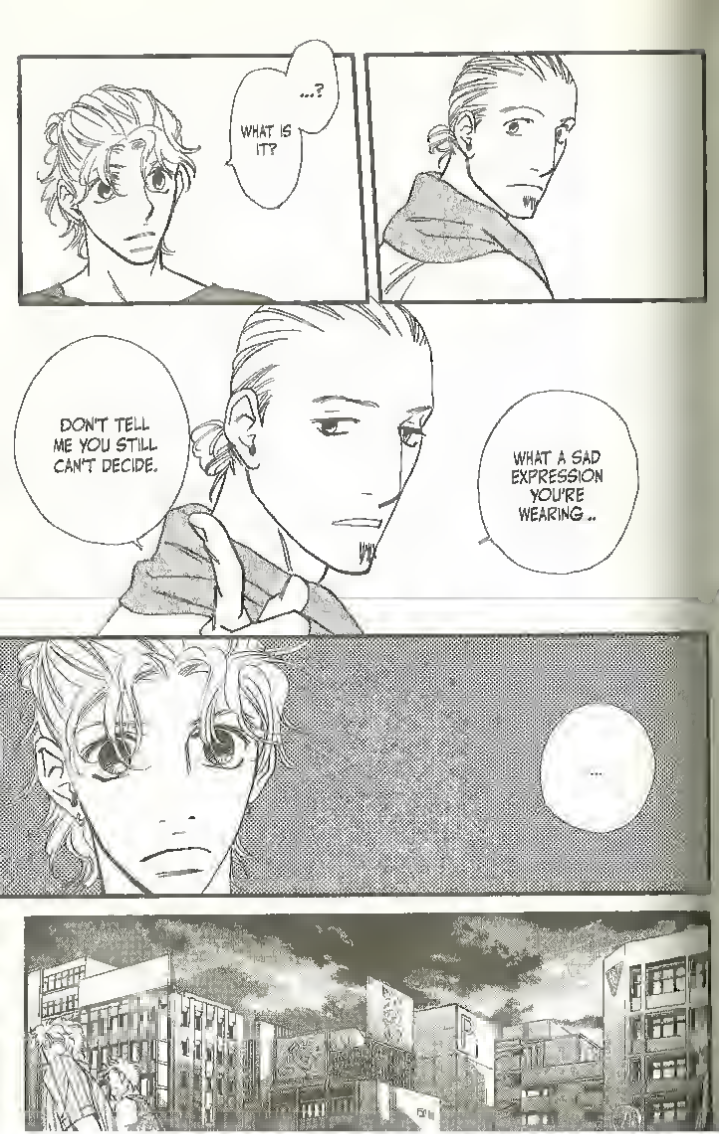
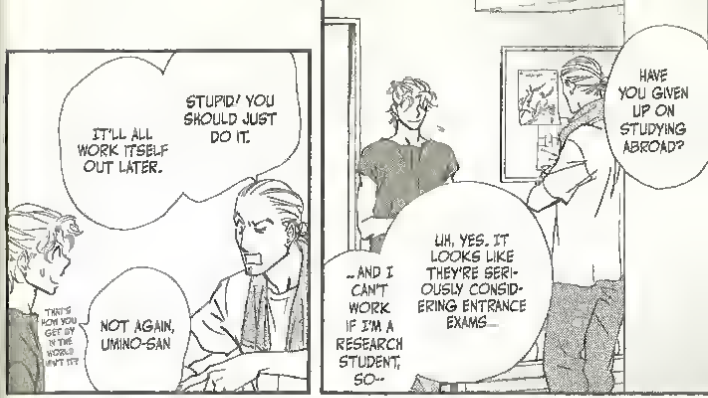
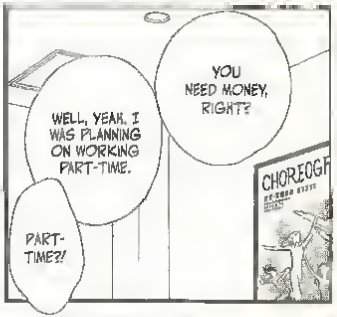



STUPID! YOU SHOULD JUST DO IT.
IT'LL ALL WORK ITSELF OUT LATER.
THAT'S HOW YOU GET BY IN THE WORLD, ISN'T IT?
NOT AGAIN, UMINO-SAN
HAVE YOU GIVEN UP ON STUDYING ABROAD?
UH, YES. IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING ENTRANCE EXAMS—
..AND I CAN'T WORK IF I'M A RESEARCH STUDENT, SO--

UH,
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU BUILD UP WEIRD MUSCLES.
WELL, DON'T TAKE ON CONSTRUCTION WORK JUST BECAUSE IT PAYS WELL.
GRAB
YOU'VE WORKED TO CREATE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL BODY!!



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UH, I'M GOING STRAIGHT HOME.
WHAT? BUT YOU DIDN'T EAT LUNCH EITHER
THOUGH YOU DID DRINK SOME OF THAT MILKY* STUFF.
*A CREAMY CARAMEL DRINK IN JAPAN
TOTALLY NOT... THEM.
ESPECIALLY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR
HEY, THERE'S A YOSHIMISAYA. LET'S GO..
...AND GET A BEEF BOWL! BEEF BOWL!
I BET THOSE WOULD LOOK GOOD ON SUMIRE-CHAN...
WHY DOESN'T HE GET FAT WHEN ALL HE EATS IS SWEET STUFF?
OH! I WANT THAT!
WHAT? WHICH ONE?

DON'T TELL ME YOU STILL CAN'T DECIDE.
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT...
...OF COURSE I CAN'T DECIDE!
...AFTER SEEING THOSE TWO TO-GETHER...
AND MEGA TEN HAS MACROSS THIS TIME..!
IF SUMIRE-CHAN...
!

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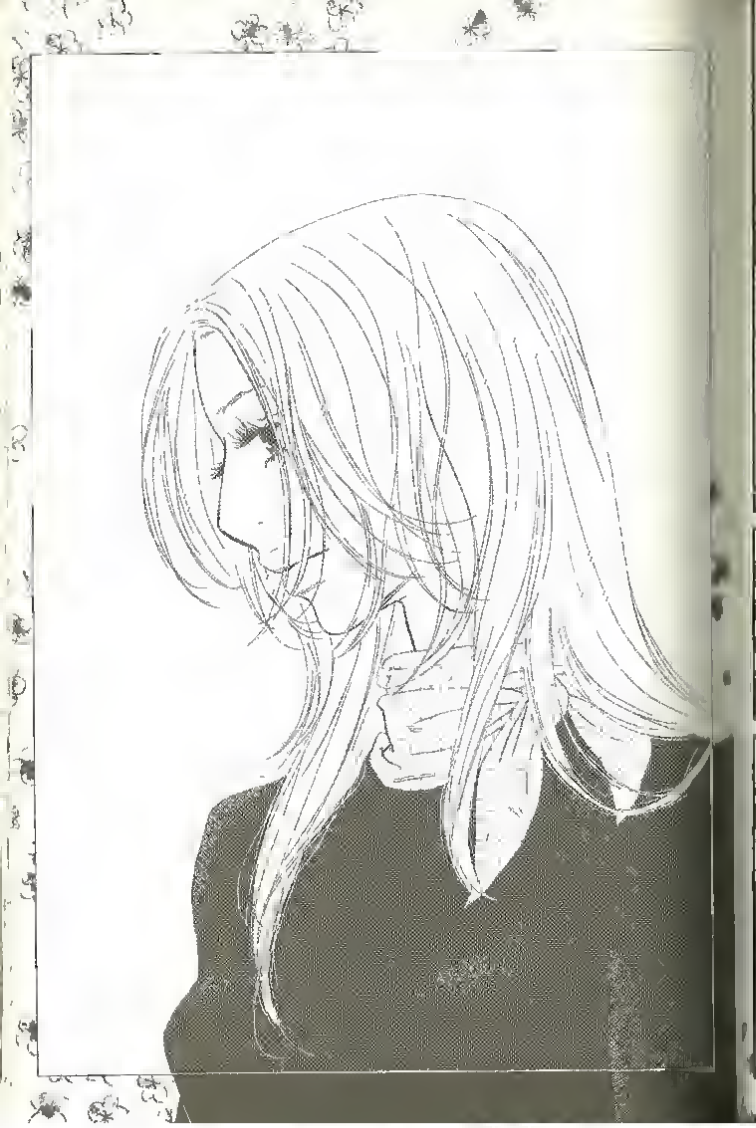

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WHAT? SENPAI --YOU, TOO?
YES.
GOOD NIGHT
...YES
YOU HAVE A POINT LET'S LEAVE THAT FOR ANOTHER TIME.
CLICK.
...
WHAT?
NOTHING REALLY. HE WAS FINE, BUT...
SOMETHING UP WITH HASUMI-KUN?
TAP TAP
HMM... I WANT A SMOKE.
HEY YOU HAVEN'T BEEN SMOKING MUCH LATELY, HAVE YOU?
MAYBE JUST ONE'S OKAY.
I TRY NOT TO
I GUESS YOU COULD CALL IT PREPA-RATION..
..SINCE I'LL HAVE TO QUIT SOON ANYWAY.
NO! IT'S BECAUSE FUKUSHIMA-SAN'S THERE!
HE WAS PROBABLY JUST ON HIS WAY TO THE BATHROOM. THAT'S WHY. RIGHT?
BUT YOU DIDN'T TALK NEARLY AS MUCH AS USUAL JUST NOW.
...
WELL, DUH. FUKUSHIMA-SAN'S THERE.
LATELY, HE'S BEEN PREOCCUPIED WHEN I CALL...
IT'S PROBABLY JUST BAD TIMING.
I MEAN, HE'S NORMAL WHEN HE CALLS.
HE'S PROBABLY CALLING FROM SOMEWHERE AWAY FROM HOME

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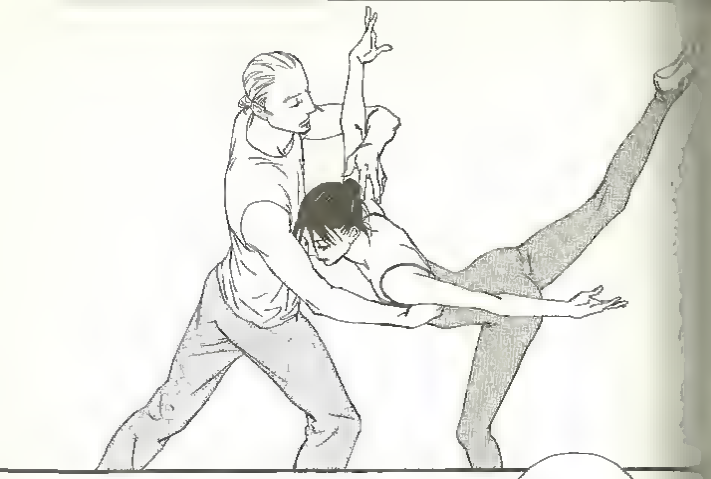
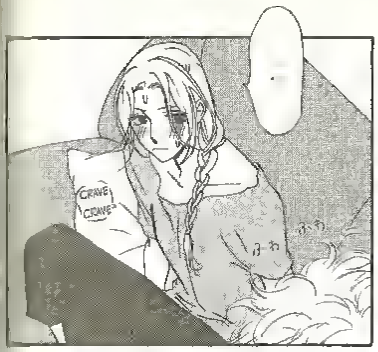


IT'S ABOUT A MERMAID PRINCESS WHO CAN'T MARRY A HUMAN PRINCE SO SHE TURNS INTO SEA FOAM.
ARGH! IDIOT! DON'T TELL ME THE ENDING!
LOTS OF STUFF HAPPENS BEFORE THAT RIGHT?



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WHO IS THAT?
THAT'S NOT ME!
WAI--
SLIP
WHO WILL BE THERE TO MAKE HER FEEL BETTER?
...YOU WILL BECOME FOAM ON THE CREST OF A WAVE...AND DISAPPEAR.
IF THE PRINCE MARRIES ANOTHER...
SENPAI...

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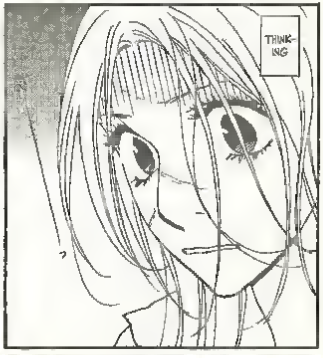

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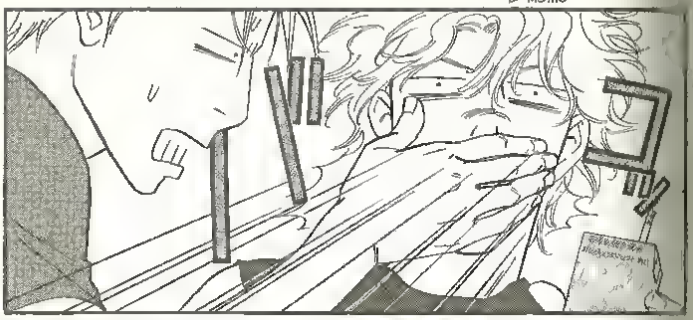
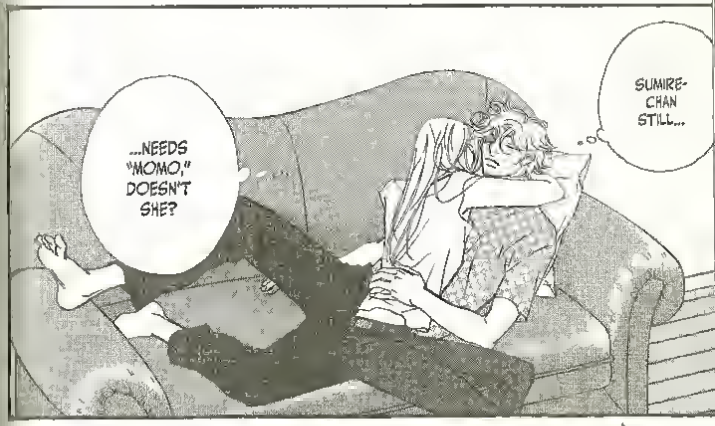


DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT!
IT'S LIKE A MOTH TO A FANG*, YOU KNOW?!
A FOREIGN DANCE COMPANY WILL STEAL THAT, YOU KNOW!
UMINO-SAN ADORES YOU, AND HELPED YOU GET THIS FAR!

FOR GOD'S SAKE, QUIT DRINKING THAT MILKY STUFF!!
UGH!! NOW MY HAND'S ALL GROSS!
HATES SWEET THINGS
WHAT ARE YOU MAKING SUCH A BIG FUSS ABOUT?



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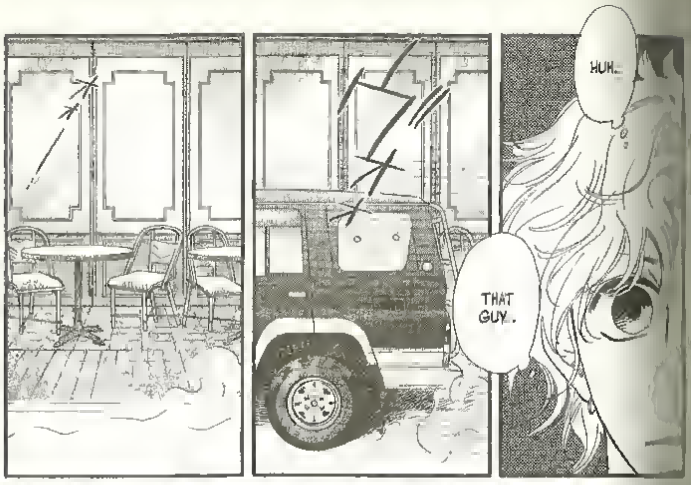

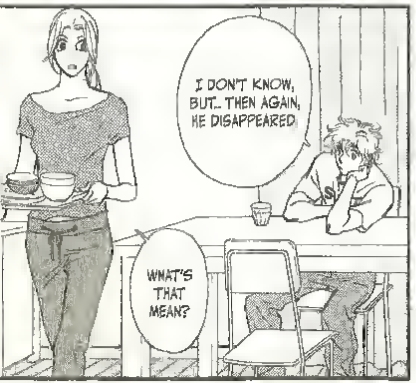

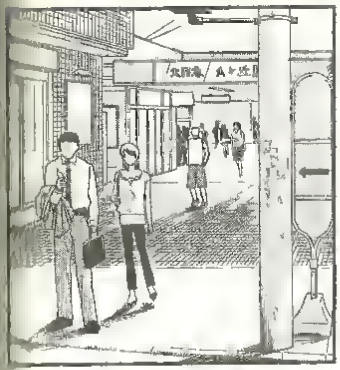

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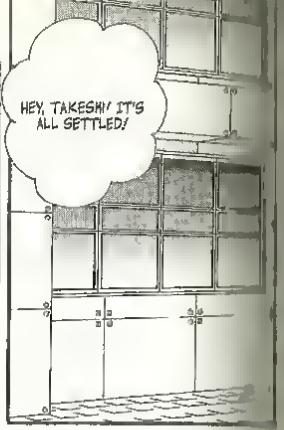

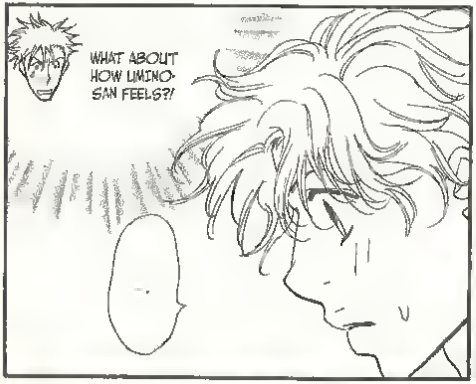

BACK WHEN I WAS STILL GETTING TREATED FOR MY ILLNESS..
...THE DOCTOR SAID I SHOULD GO TO ONE OF THOSE PATIENT MEETINGS, YOU KNOW, AND..
..THERE WAS THIS WEIRD OLD MAN THERE.
BUT NO, MAYBE THIS GUY I SAW TODAY WAS YOUNGER

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RULE 02: JUMP!

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...WAS NOT SOMETHING I COULD GET LIFED TO.
THE DOCTORS GAVE ME MEDICINE. I ALWAYS FELT BETTER WHEN I TOOK IT, BUT GROUP COUNSELING...
BUT RIGHT AFTER I GOT BACK, I HAD TO GO TO THERAPY FOR THE ANXIETY THEY CAUSED.
THE SEIZURES I HAD DURING MY STUDIES ABROAD WERE ALL GONE.
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE BREATHING SMOKE INSTEAD OF AIR, EH?
STAYING UP ALL NIGHT AND DRINKING CAFFEINE AREN'T, EITHER.
DIDN'T THEY TELL YOU? SMOKING ISN'T GOOD FOR OUR DISORDER.
IT WAS ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO.
PD GROUP MEETING
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
EXCUSE ME!
...UMM... GO--
NOW... THE NEXT SPEAKER WILL BE...
NEXT IS, UH.. TAKESHI GOUDA.
DOCTOR, THAT WAS GOUDA.
I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD. CAN I GET SOME FRESH AIR?
WELL...YES, PLEASE GO.

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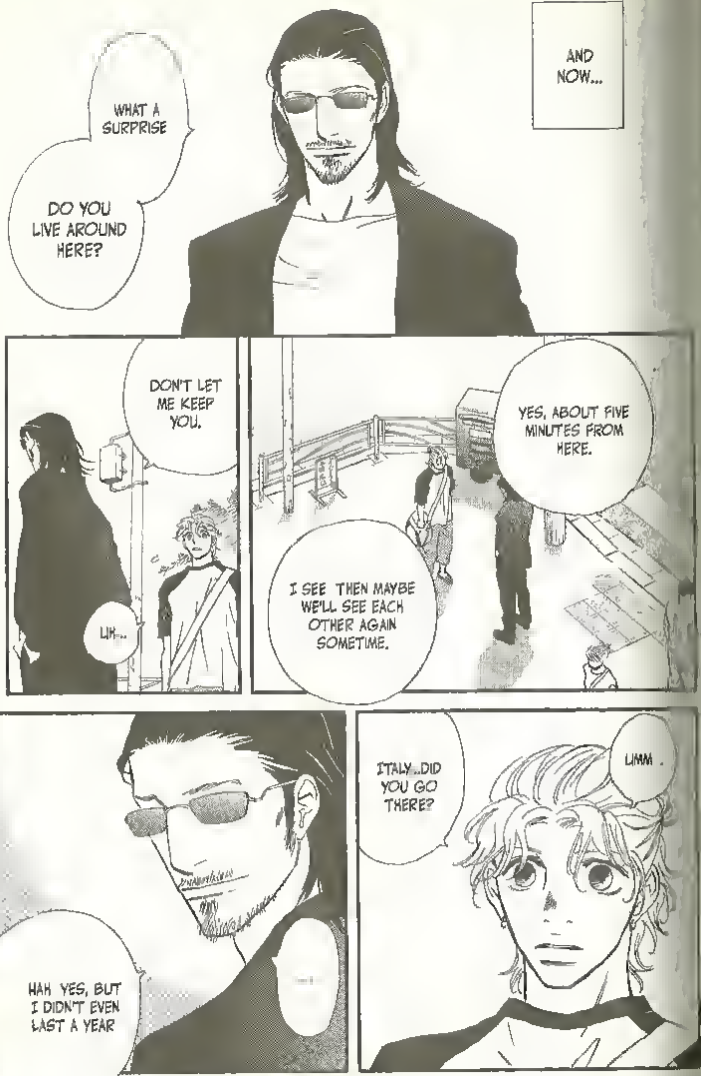
AND NOW...
WHAT A SURPRISE
DO YOU LIVE AROUND HERE?
DON'T LET ME KEEP YOU.
UH...
YES, ABOUT FIVE MINUTES FROM HERE.
I SEE. THEN MAYBE WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN SOMETIME.
HAH. YES, BUT I DIDN'T EVEN LAST A YEAR
ITALY...DID YOU GO THERE?
UMM.

FLICK
...AND YOU ARE?
YOU PICKED THE WRONG OBJECTION.
FORGET ALL THAT--I'M UNDERAGE, TOO.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT? IT REALLY HELPS, YOU KNOW.
THEY'RE DONE SHARING THEIR PERSONAL EXPERIENCES RIGHT NOW. THEY'RE TAKING A SHORT CLASS ON AUTOGENIC TRAINING.*
*A RELAXATION TECHNIQUE USED TO TREAT STRESS
TIRED, SO I'M GOING HOME.
THEY SAID KARATANI'S WIFE RAN OUT ON HIM BECAUSE OF HIS SEIZURES.
HE ALSO QUIT HIS JOB AS A HIGH SCHOOL ART TEACHER BECAUSE OF THE SEIZURES.
HIS WIFE WON'T COME HOME, BUT HER MOM AND SISTERS STILL LIVE WITH HIM

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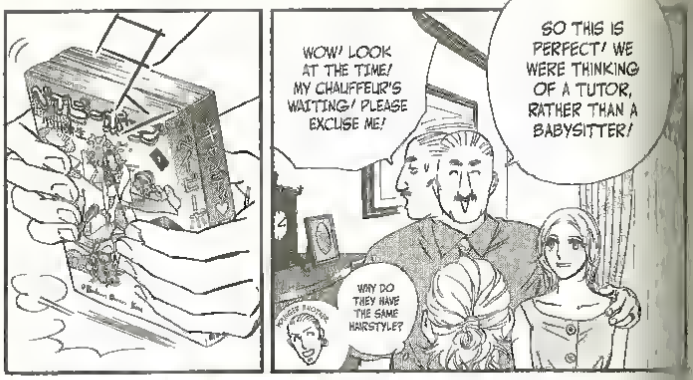
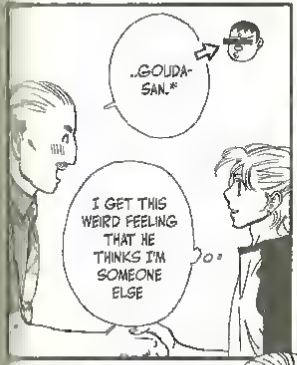
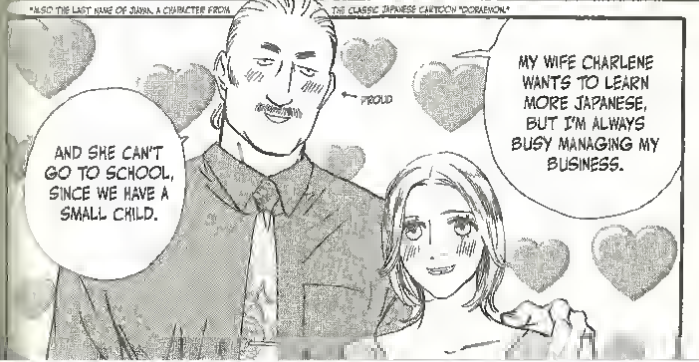

SO THIS IS PERFECT! WE WERE THINKING OF A TUTOR, RATHER THAN A BABYSITTER!
WOW! LOOK AT THE TIME! MY CHAUFFEUR'S WAITING! PLEASE EXCUSE ME!
WHY DO THEY HAVE THE SAME HAIRSTYLE?

*"BANDE DESSINEE" IS THE FRENCH TERM FOR COMICS. LITERALLY IT MEANS "DRAWN



*ALSO THE LAST NAME OF JUNPEI, A CHARACTER FROM

THE CLASSIC JAPANESE CARTOON "DORAEMON."


PROUD
MY WIFE CHARLENE WANTS TO LEARN MORE JAPANESE, BUT I'M ALWAYS BUSY MANAGING MY BUSINESS.
AND SHE CAN'T GO TO SCHOOL, SINCE WE HAVE A SMALL CHILD.

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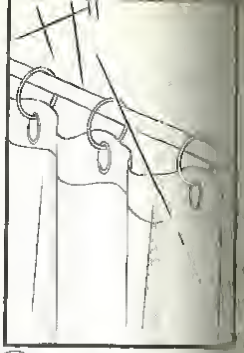
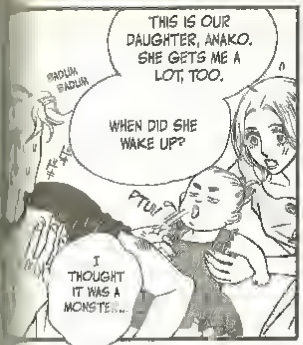
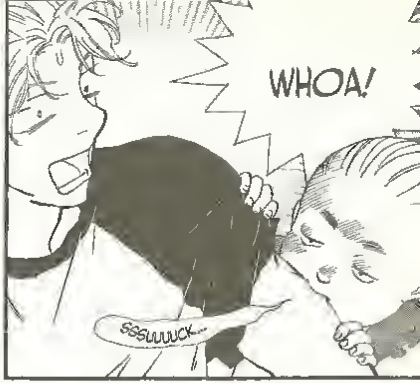
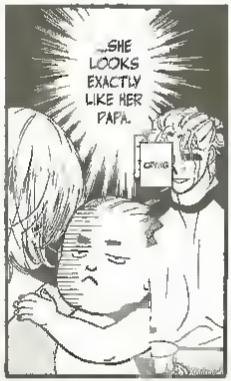
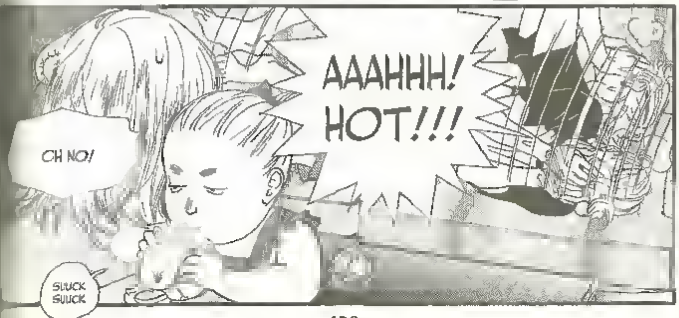


YOU CAN'T GO HOME UNTIL YOUR CLOTHES DRY, RIGHT? COULD YOU WATCH ANAKO FOR A BIT?
?
SEE, ANAKO LOOKS REALLY HAPPY TO BE WITH YOU!
NO, SHE'S GLARING AT ME









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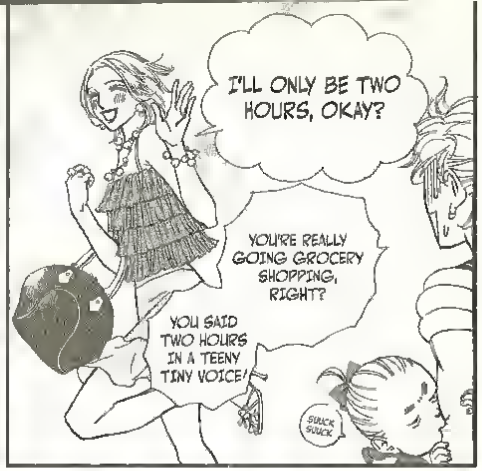

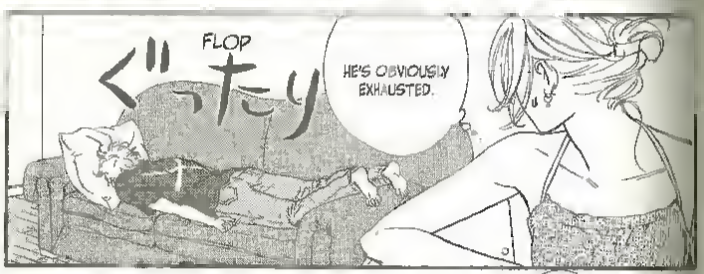

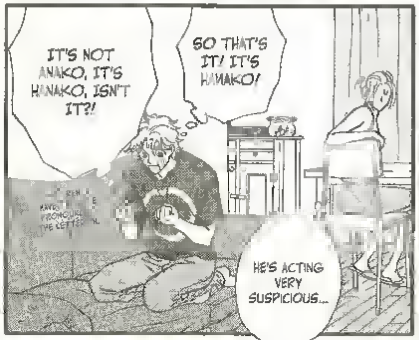

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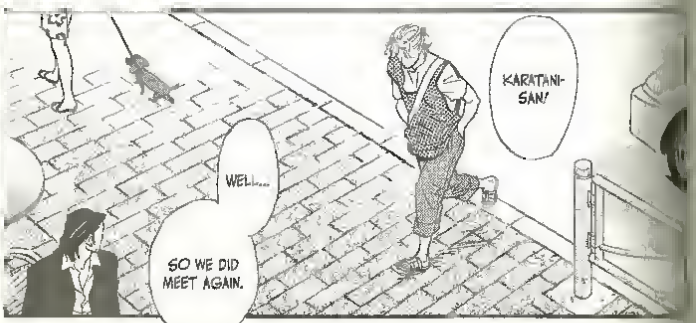

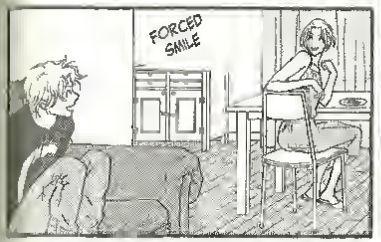

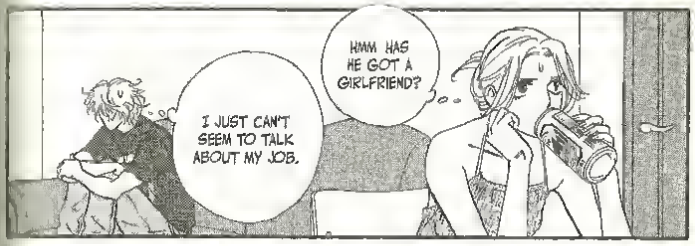

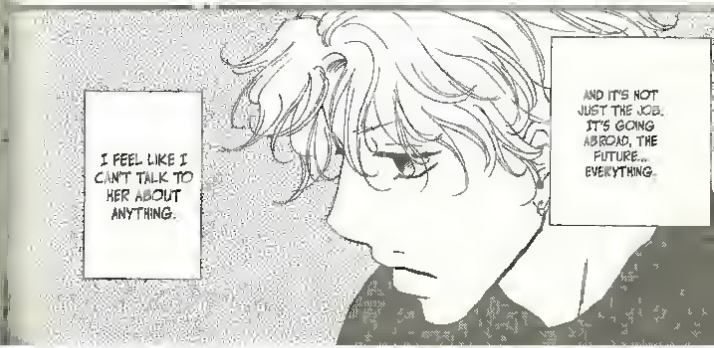

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SHE WAS ALWAYS BY MY SIDE..
...AND WE BOTH NEEDED EACH OTHER.
BUT I COULDN'T TELL HER I LOVED HER...AND I SUFFERED FOR IT.
IT KIND OF STRUCK A CHORD.
I'M SORRY.
RIGHT. BACK THEN...
...I LOVED SOMEONE.
SO I RAN AWAY.
SHE PASSED AWAY LAST MONTH.
!
BUT IT WAS A MISTAKE TO LEAVE LIKE THAT, WITHOUT TELLING HER HOW I FELT.
IT DIDN'T SOLVE ANYTHING.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PERSON YOU LIKED?

A-ARE YOU OKAY? YOU LOOK PALE.
DO I?
WELL, I HAVEN'T BEEN EATING WELL.
BLOOD
KARATANI-SAN... BEFORE YOU WENT TO ITALY, YOU SAID...
UMM...
I FEEL LIKE I'LL TURN TO ASHES IF EXPOSED TO THE SUN.
HE LOOKS LIKE IT, TOO.
WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT?
...YOU WERE GOING TO LEAVE BEHIND SOMEONE YOU LOVED.

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KARATANI-SAN!
WAIT A MIN--
WHAT?
I COULDN'T STOP MYSELF FROM FOLLOWING HIM.
SOMEHOW, HIS STORY REALLY BOTHERED ME.
IS THIS...
...A FAIRY TALE?
I HEARD SHE CALLED FOR ME ON HER DEATHBED.
CLUNK
KARATANI-SAN?
THEN YOU CAN JUMP AND SOAR TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT
GOUDA-KUN.
IF YOU CAN'T DECIDE, JUST TELL HER.

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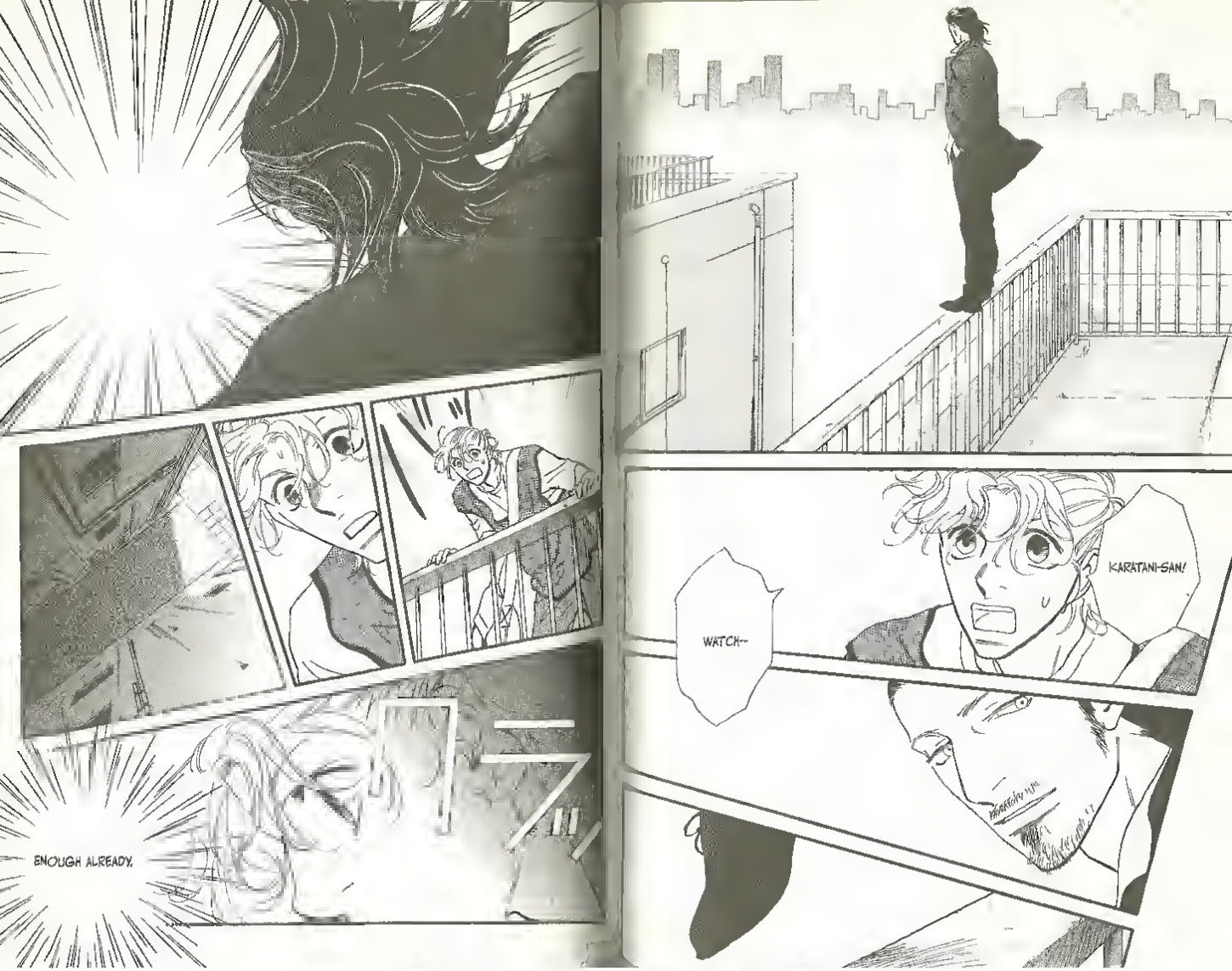

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MOM!
WE'RE NEAR THE END.
I HAVE FAITH IN YOUR SKILL.
WITH AN INVALID LIKE ME?
THERE'S A RESTORATION JOB IN ITALY. HOW ABOUT IT?
YOU SHOULD BE TOGETHER.
A PLEASANT PRISON.
YOU'LL SIGN THE DIVORCE PAPERS, WON'T YOU?
I HEARD YOU WENT TO ITALY.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
BUT SHE'S BEEN HOSPITALIZED WITH CANCER. THEY SAY THEY CAN'T SAVE HER.
SIS GOT MARRIED.
THE WORDS I NEVER SAID.

SHUT UP, SIS!
ERI-CHAN, THAT'S GOING TOO FAR.
THE ONLY THING WRONG WITH HIM IS LAZINESS!
HE'S FAKING IT!
SHE'LL COME HOME
AFTER ALL, YOU WERE SO CLOSE.
YES, I ALSO QUIT MY JOB.
MY FRIEND'S PULLING STRINGS TO GET ME FREELANCE WORK.
ME? I'M NOT GOING TO GET MARRIED.
MOTHER'S BEDRIDDEN WHO ELSE WILL TAKE CARE OF HER?
IT'S ALMOST AS IF TIME HAS STOPPED IN THIS HOUSE.

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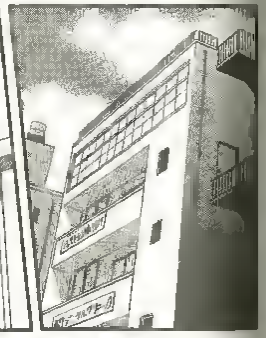

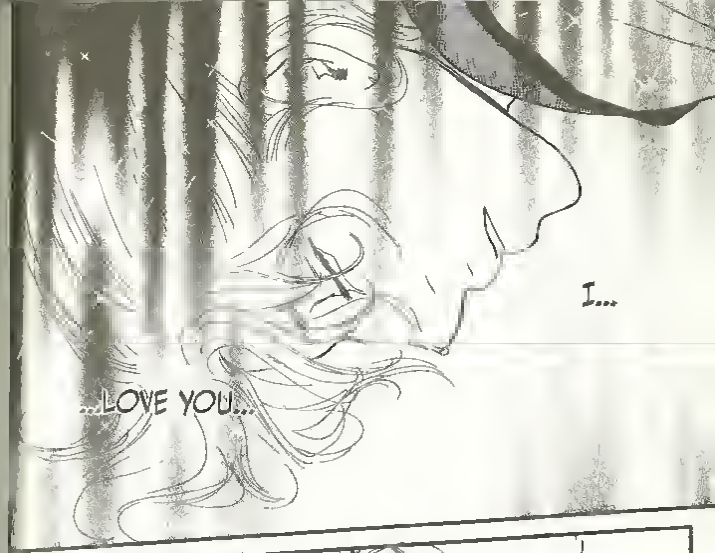

WE THINK YOU COLLAPSED FROM HEAT EXHAUSTION.
I WAS ABOUT TO GIVE YOU AN I.V. SO YOU WOULDN'T DEHYDRATE.
FORGET ABOUT ME. THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE WHO NEEDS HELP.
カバッ
OH, YOU'RE UP.

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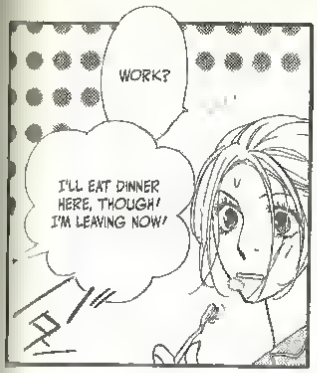

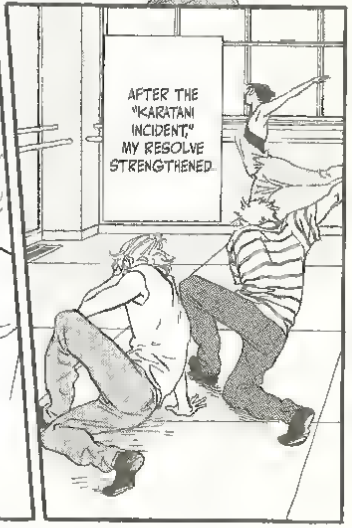

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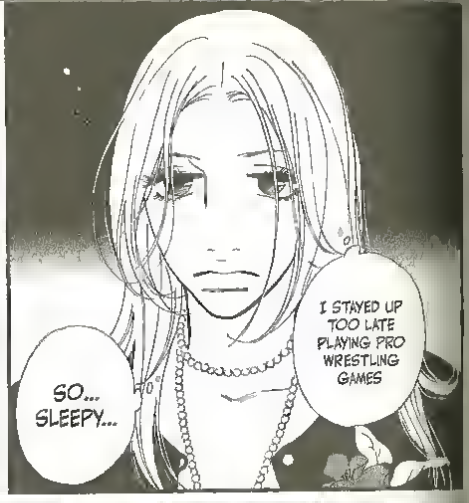

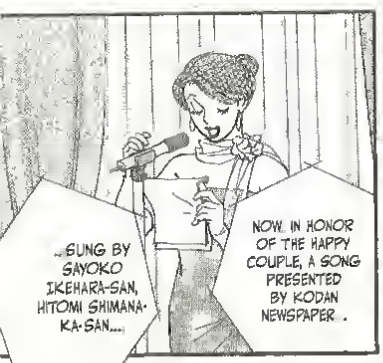

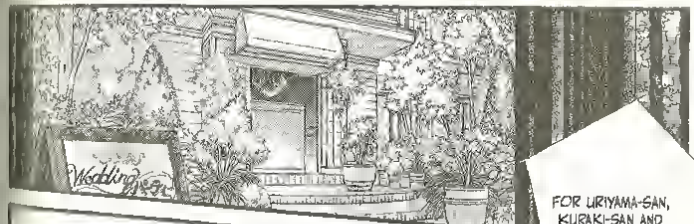

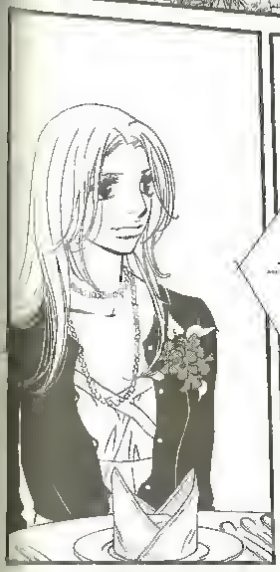

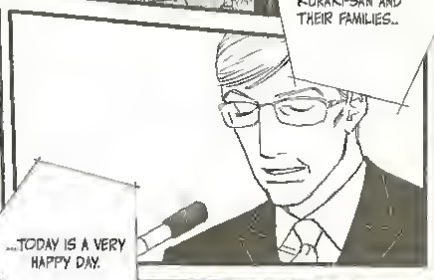

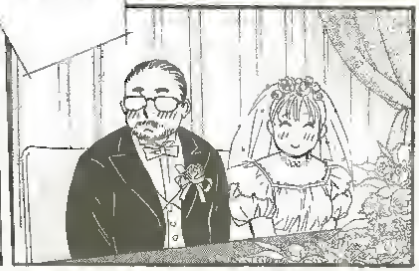

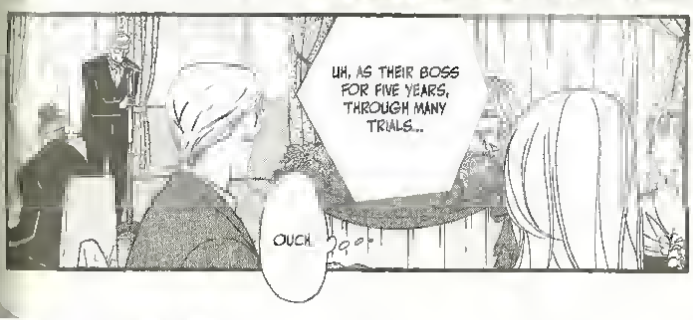

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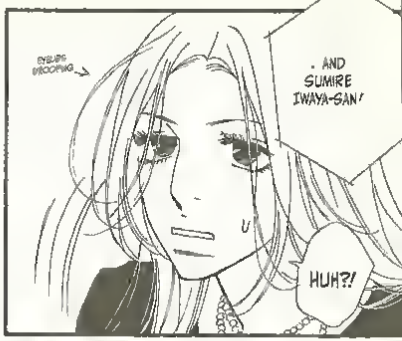
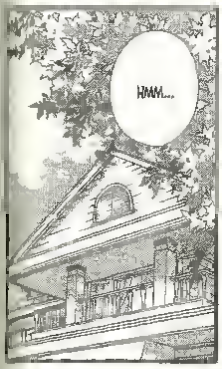
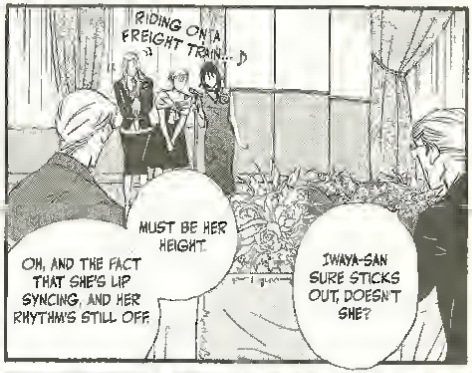
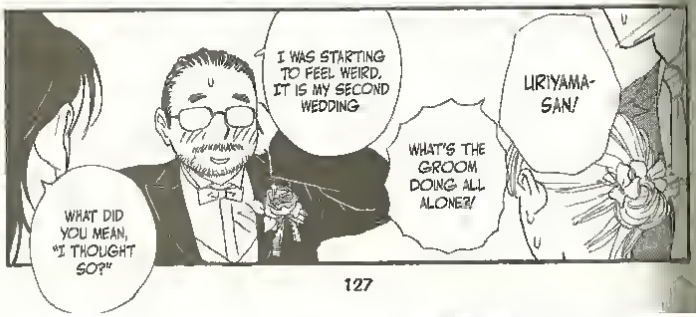





RIDING ON A FREIGHT TRAIN... ♪
MUST BE HER HEIGHT.
OH, AND THE FACT THAT SHE'S LIP SYNCING, AND HER RHYTHM'S STILL OFF.
IWAYA-SAN SURE STICKS OUT, DOESN'T SHE?


I WAS STARTING TO FEEL WEIRD. IT IS MY SECOND WEDDING
WHAT'S THE GROOM DOING ALL ALONE?
URIYAMA-SAN!
WHAT DID YOU MEAN, "I THOUGHT SO?"

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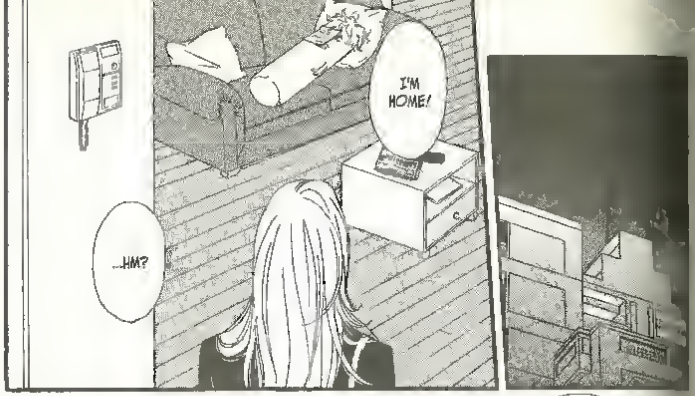
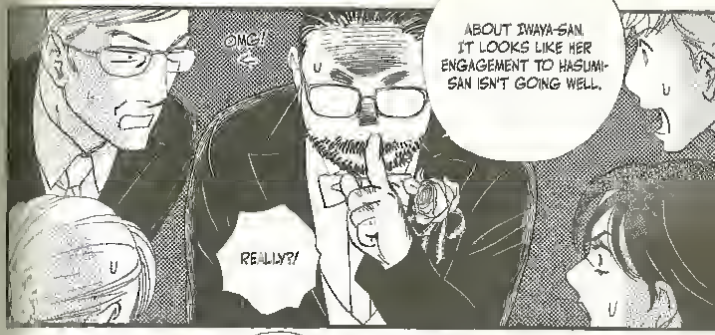
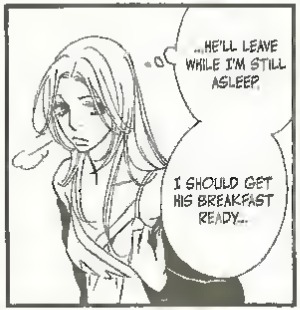
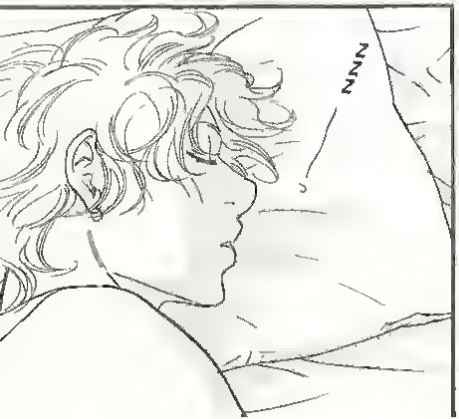


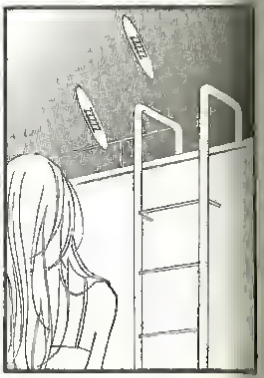


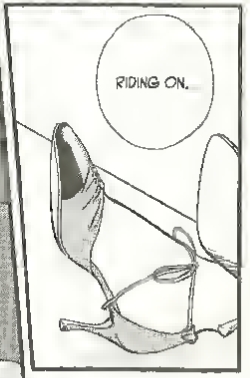


WHY DO YOU GUYS KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT IWAYA-SAN?
YOU SEE? IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT SHE'D BE UPSET.
WELL, SHE'LL BE 29* IN SIX DAYS. SHE MUST BE GETTING IMPATIENT.

*IN JAPAN, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN OF 29 IS CONSIDERED AN OLD MAID.







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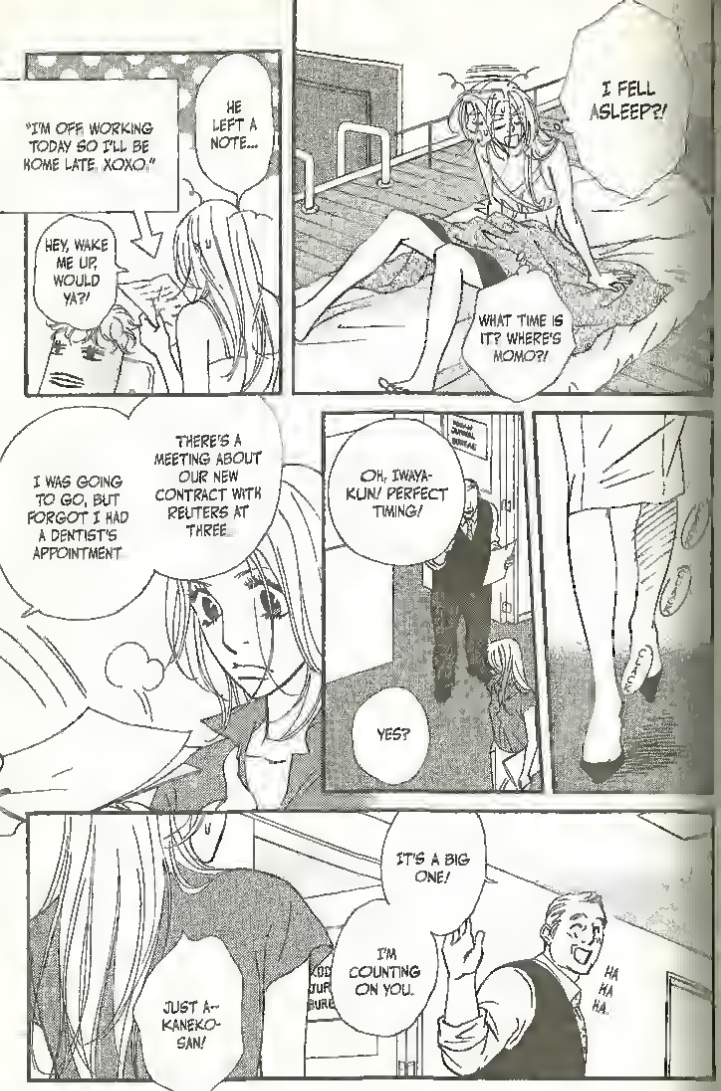
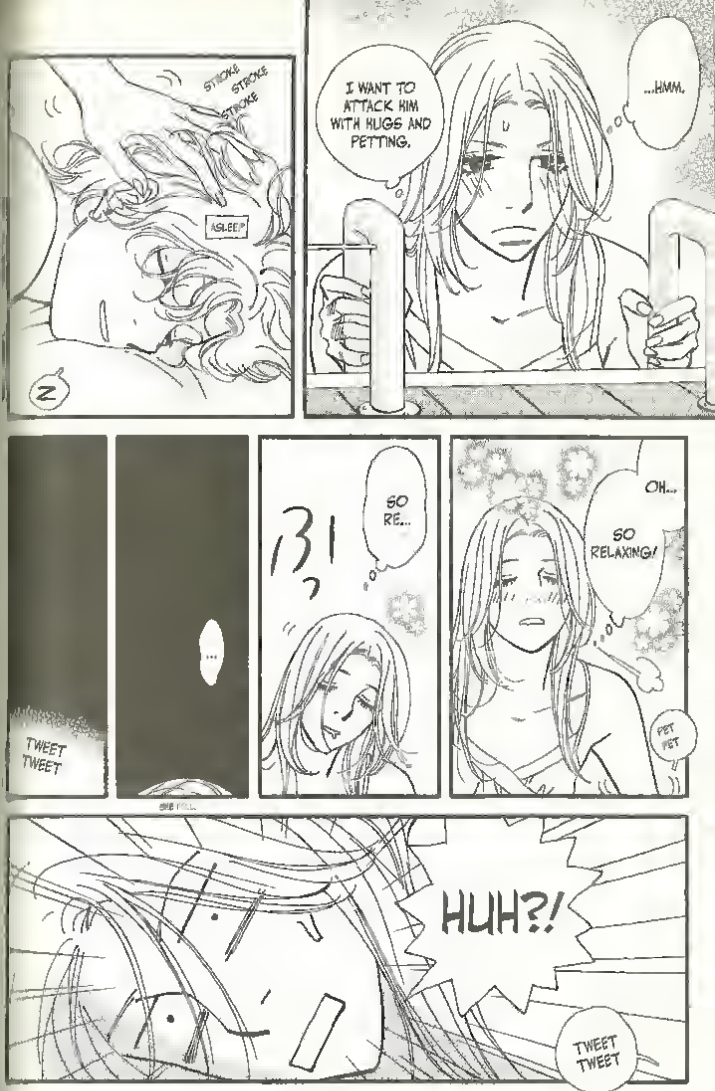

"I'M OFF WORKING TODAY SO I'LL BE HOME LATE. XOXO."
HE LEFT A NOTE...
HEY, WAKE ME UP, WOULD YA?!
I FELL ASLEEP?!
WHAT TIME IS IT? WHERE'S MOMO?!
I WAS GOING TO GO, BUT FORGOT I HAD A DENTIST'S APPOINTMENT.
THERE'S A MEETING ABOUT OUR NEW CONTRACT WITH REUTERS AT THREE.
OH, IWAYA-KUN! PERFECT TIMING!
YES?
IT'S A BIG ONE!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
HA HA HA.
JUST A-- KANEKO-SAN!



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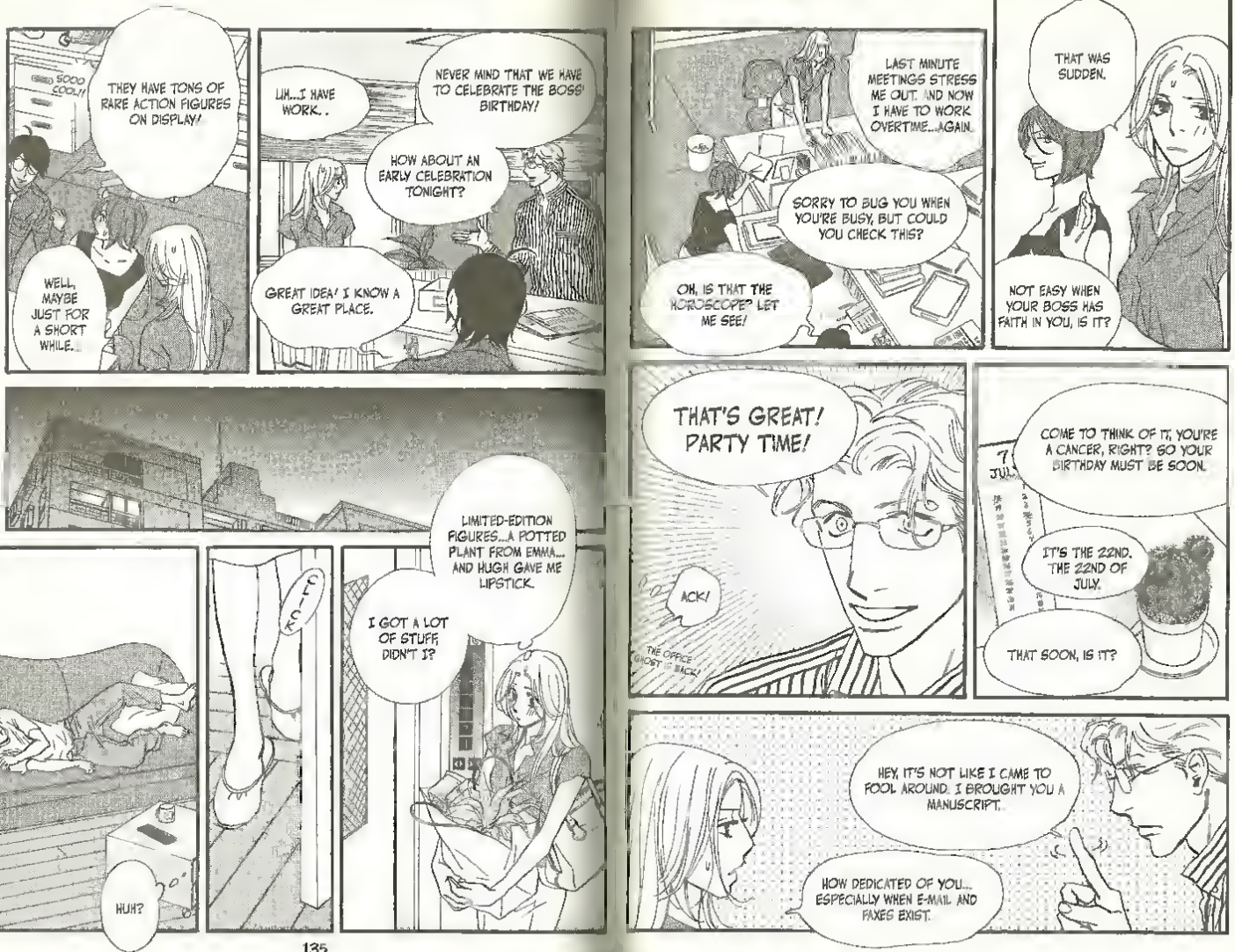
SOOO COOL!!
THEY HAVE TONS OF RARE ACTION FIGURES ON DISPLAY!
WELL, MAYBE JUST FOR A SHORT WHILE...
UH...I HAVE WORK..
NEVER MIND THAT WE HAVE TO CELEBRATE THE BOSS' BIRTHDAY!
HOW ABOUT AN EARLY CELEBRATION TONIGHT?
GREAT IDEA! I KNOW A GREAT PLACE.
LAST MINUTE MEETINGS STRESS ME OUT. AND NOW I HAVE TO WORK OVERTIME...AGAIN.
SORRY TO BUG YOU WHEN YOU'RE BUSY, BUT COULD YOU CHECK THIS?
OH, IS THAT THE HOROSCOPE? LET ME SEE!
THAT WAS SUDDEN.
NOT EASY WHEN YOUR BOSS HAS FAITH IN YOU, IS IT?
THAT'S GREAT! PARTY TIME!
ACK!
THE OFFICE GHOST IS BACK!
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU'RE A CANCER, RIGHT? SO YOUR BIRTHDAY MUST BE SOON.
IT'S THE 22ND. THE 22ND OF JULY.
THAT SOON, IS IT?
LIMITED-EDITION FIGURES...A POTTED PLANT FROM EMMA... AND HUGH GAVE ME LIPSTICK.
I GOT A LOT OF STUFF, DIDN'T I?
CLICK
HUH?
HEY, IT'S NOT LIKE I CAME TO FOOL AROUND. I BROUGHT YOU A MANUSCRIPT.
HOW DEDICATED OF YOU... ESPECIALLY WHEN E-MAIL AND FAXES EXIST.

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AND THIS IS FROM MY WIFE...AND HERE'S ONE FROM ITAMI-SAN...
TH-THANK YOU.
SHIMANAKA-SAN... EVERYONE... WHAT'S GOING ON?
ME, TOO.
I GOT ONE, TOO!
IT'S A BIT EARLY, BUT HERE'S YOUR BIRTHDAY PRESENT!
ME, TOOO! ♡
WHAT?
WE ALL WANT TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU!
WE WERE WONDERING IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO TO DINNER TONIGHT.
"WIFE" ALREADY, EH? SETTLING IN?
29 YEARS. BANZAI!
CONGRATS ON YOUR 29TH!
WOULD YOU PLEASE STOP YELLING MY AGE?
I STILL HAVE THREE DAYS!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU! ♪
HA HA HA
JUST ME JUST ME
GUESS I'LL GO SLEEP IN THE LOFT THAT STINKS LIKE MOMO.
"I LOVE YOU"...
NAH COULDN'T BE.
...IS WHAT I THOUGHT I HEARD, BUT...
PHEW.
IWAYA-SAN!

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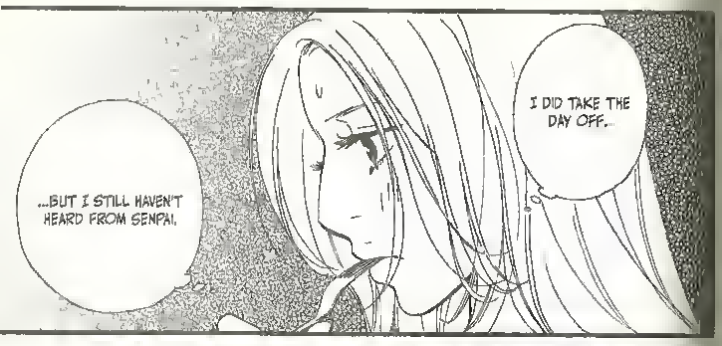

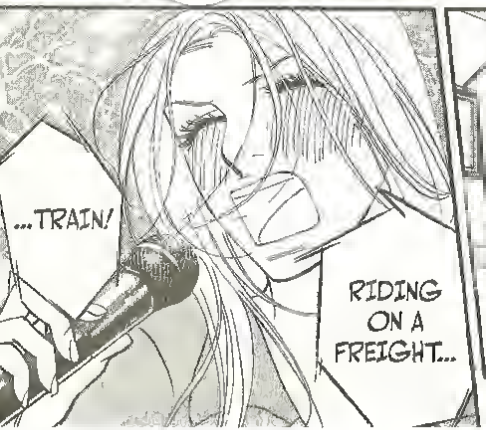

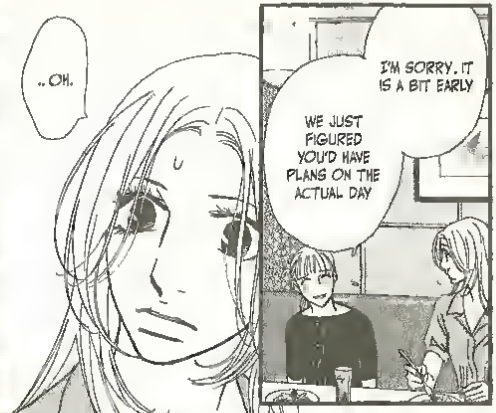

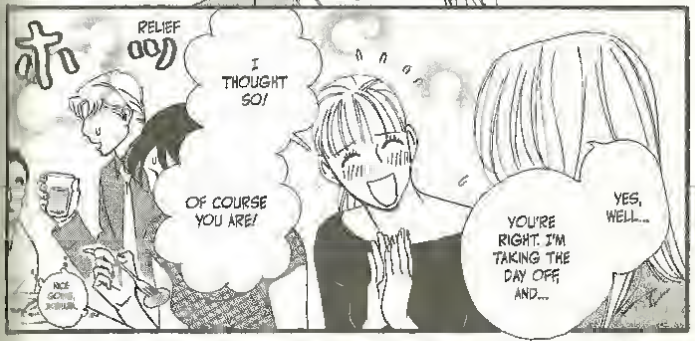

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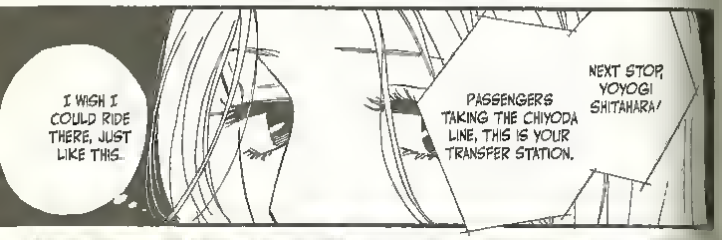
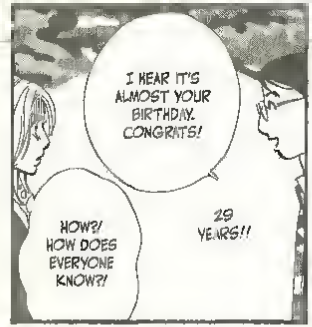
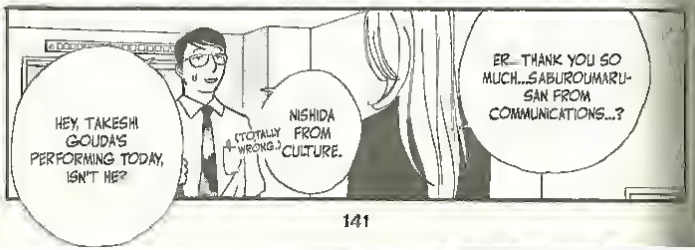
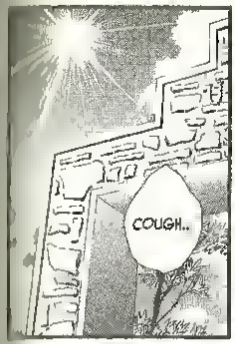
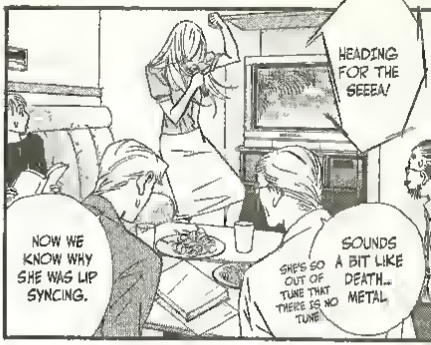
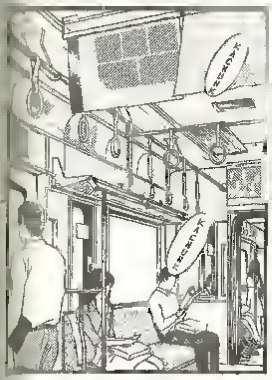

I WISH I COULD RIDE THERE, JUST LIKE THIS..
PASSENGERS TAKING THE CHIYODA LINE, THIS IS YOUR TRANSFER STATION.
NEXT STOP, YOYOGI SHITAHARA!



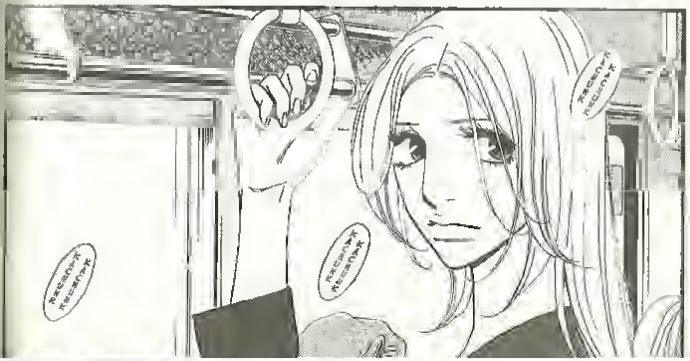

HEY, TAKESHI GOUDA'S PERFORMING TODAY, ISN'T HE?
(TOTALLY WRONG.)
NISHIDA FROM CULTURE.
ER... THANK YOU SO MUCH...SABUROUMARU-SAN FROM COMMUNICATIONS...?




HEADING FOR THE SEEEA!
NOW WE KNOW WHY SHE WAS LIP SYNCING.
SHE'S SO OUT OF TUNE THAT THERE IS NO TUNE
SOUNDS A BIT LIKE DEATH... METAL



I'M TOO TIRED TO WALK TO SHIBUYA. GUESS I'LL TAKE THE ODAKYU TRAIN.
IT'S ONLY ONE STATION, AFTER ALL...
UGH. MY HEAD AND MY THROAT HURT.



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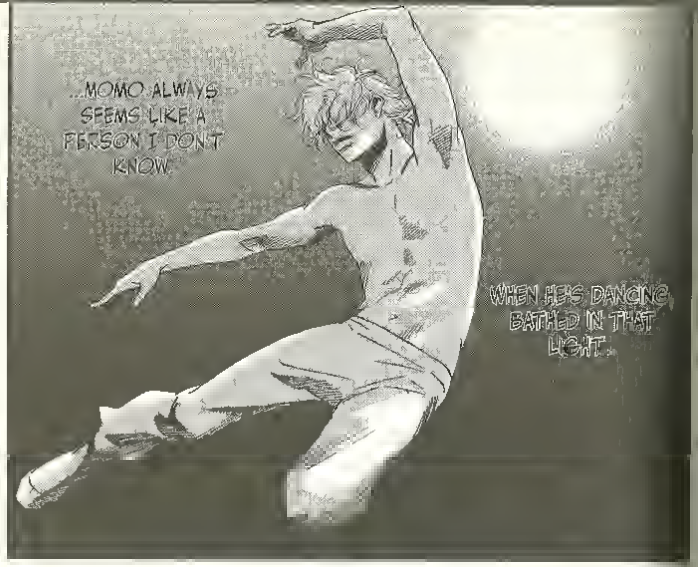

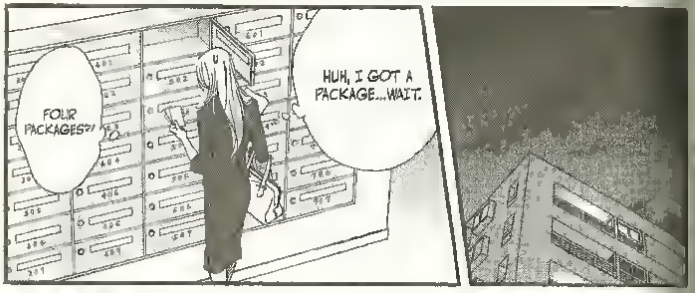

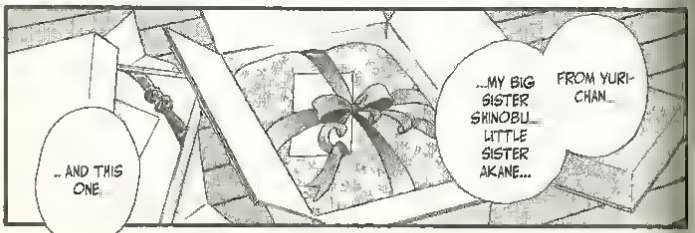

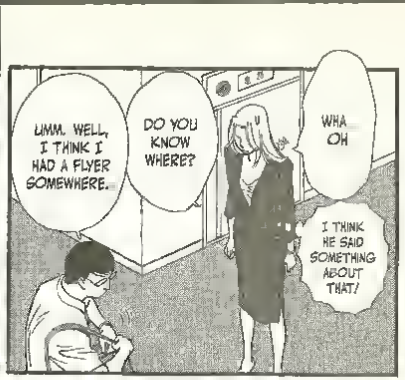

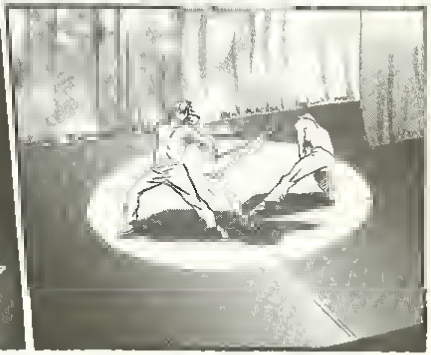

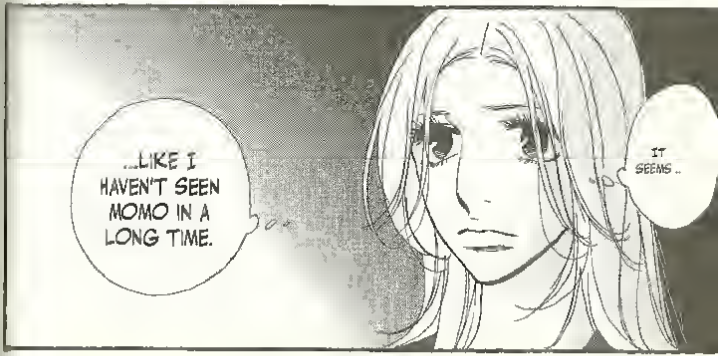

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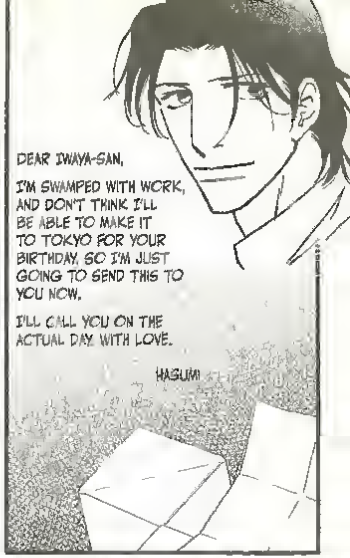
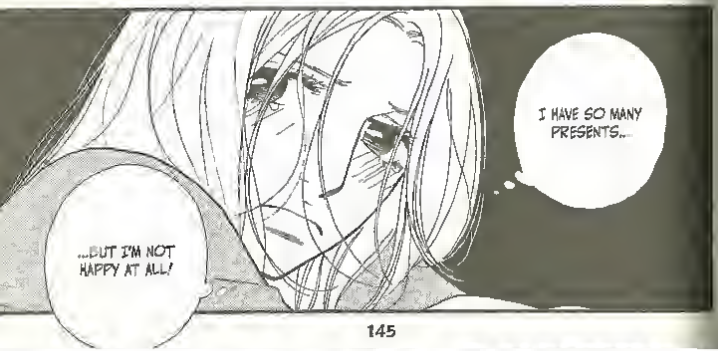

DEAR IWAYA-SAN,
I'M SWAMPED WITH WORK, AND DON'T THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT TO TOKYO FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY, SO I'M JUST GOING TO SEND THIS TO YOU NOW.
I'LL CALL YOU ON THE ACTUAL DAY. WITH LOVE.
HASUMI



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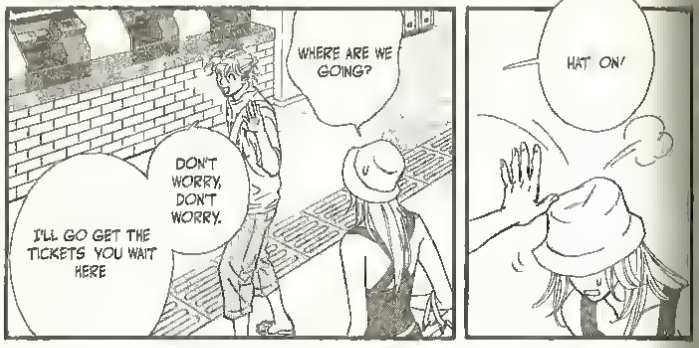
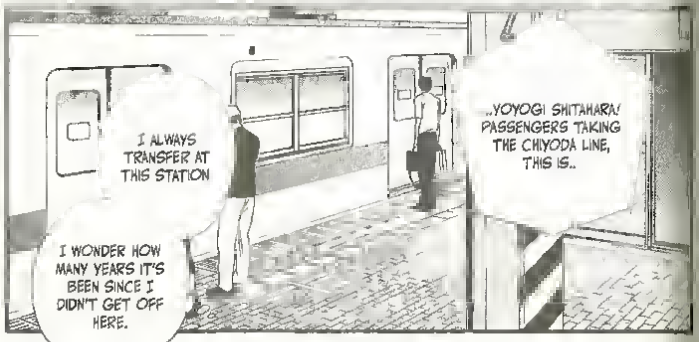
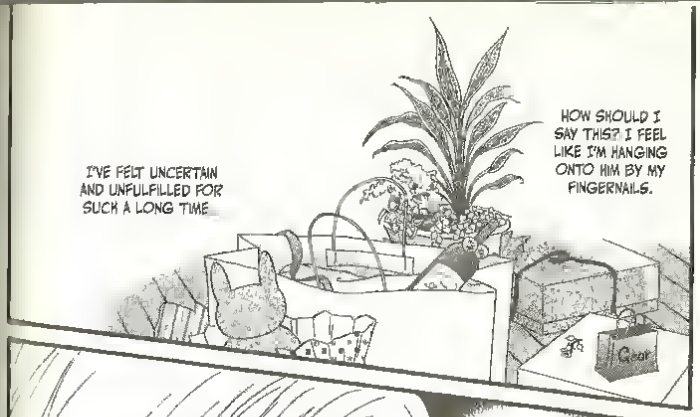
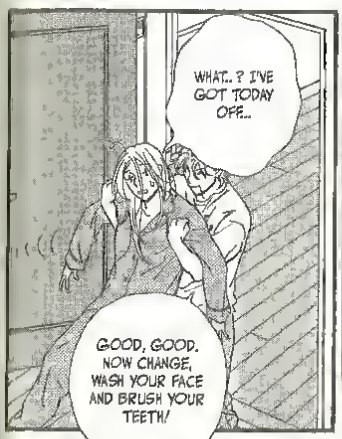
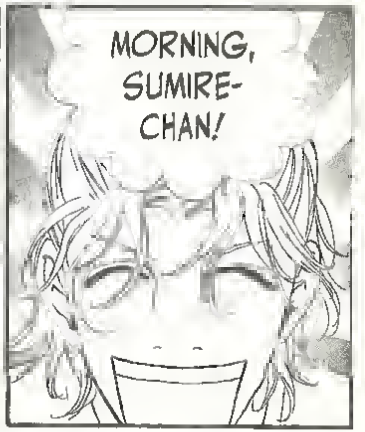



I ALWAYS TRANSFER AT THIS STATION
I WONDER HOW MANY YEARS IT'S BEEN SINCE I DIDN'T GET OFF HERE.
...YOYOGI SHITAHARA! PASSENGERS TAKING THE CHIYODA LINE, THIS IS..


I'VE FELT UNCERTAIN AND UNFULFILLED FOR SUCH A LONG TIME
HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS? I FEEL LIKE I'M HANGING ONTO HIM BY MY FINGERNAILS.





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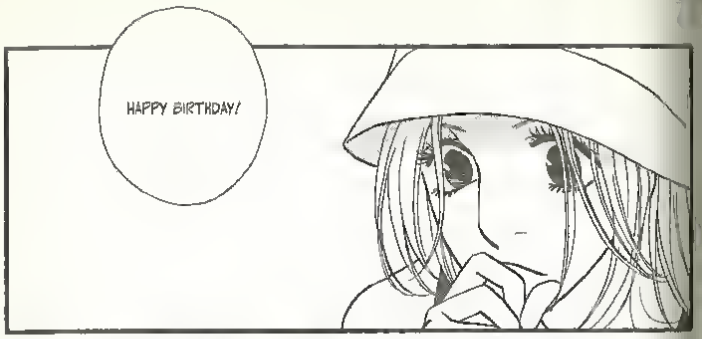

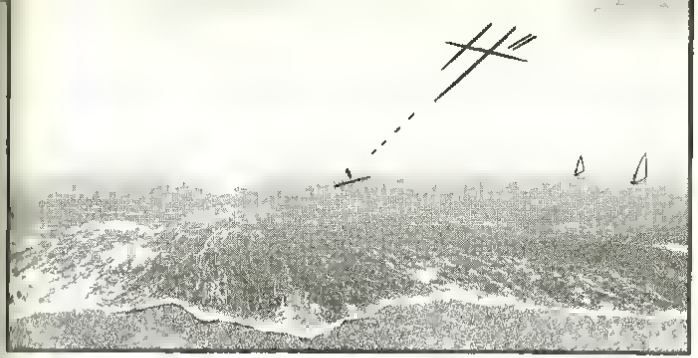

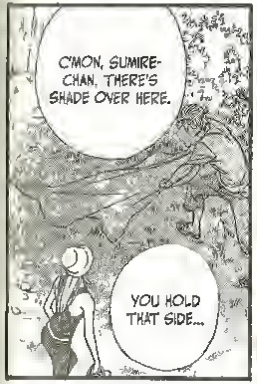

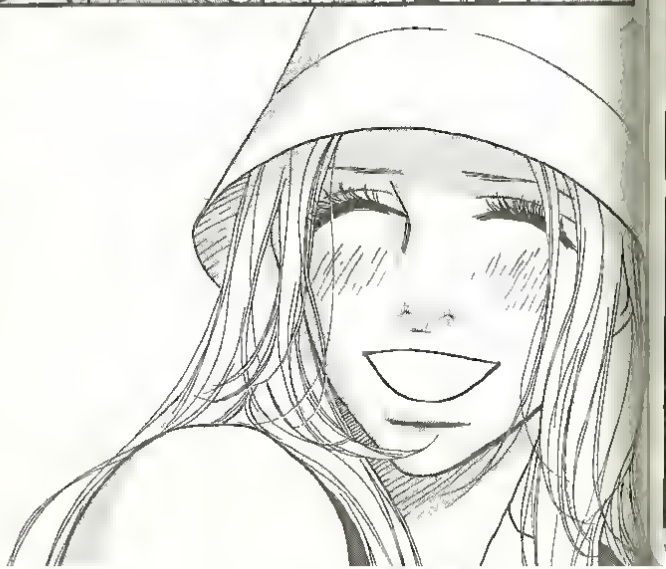

YUP! THERE'S SEAWEED, FISH SAUSAGE, TUNA, UMEBOSHI* AND MAYONNAISE INSIDE!
MPH!
YOU MADE THIS, MOMO?
LIE, CHEAT & STEAL
GIANT ONIGIRI

*JAPANESE PICKLED PLUMS. ALL THIS IS INSIDE AN ONIGIRI, A RICE BALL THAT'S SORT OF THE JAPANESE VERSION OF A SAMWICH.

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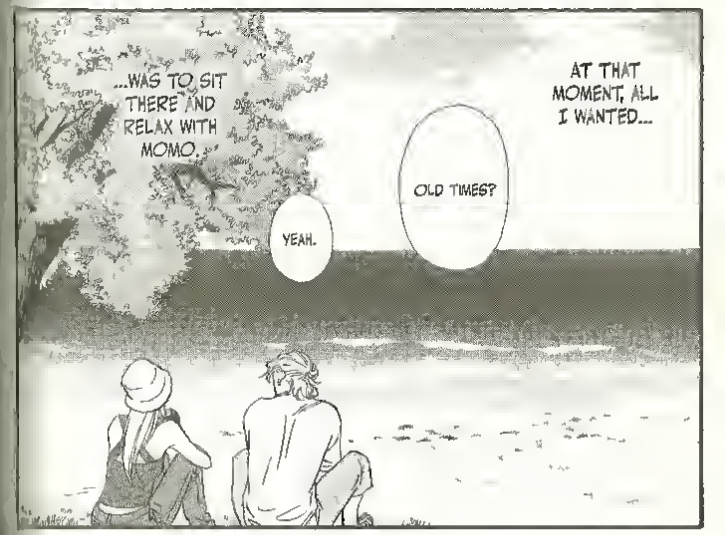
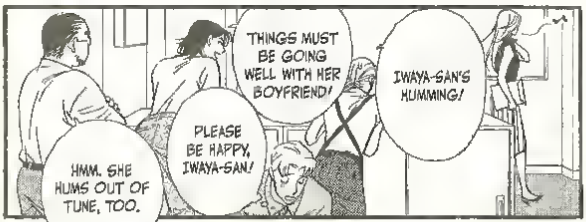


JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.



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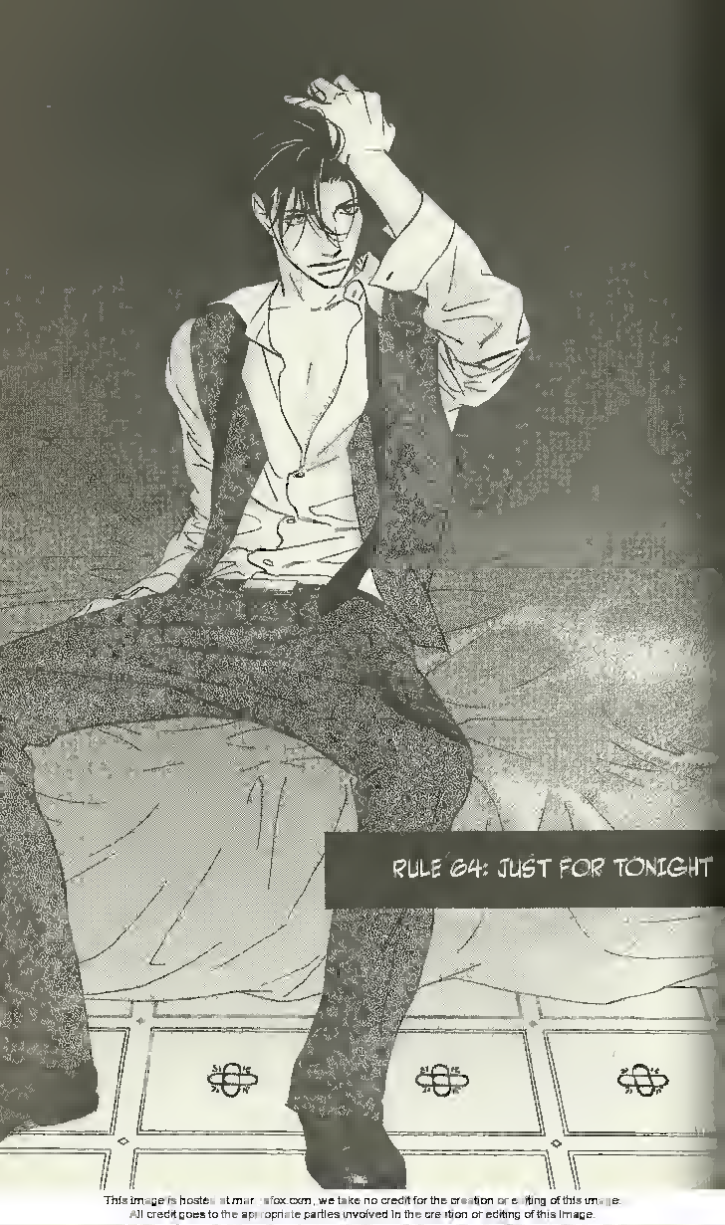

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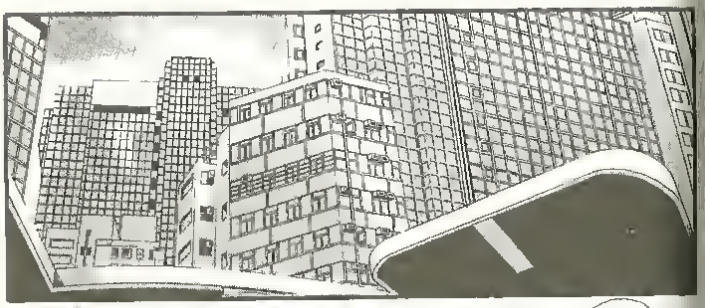

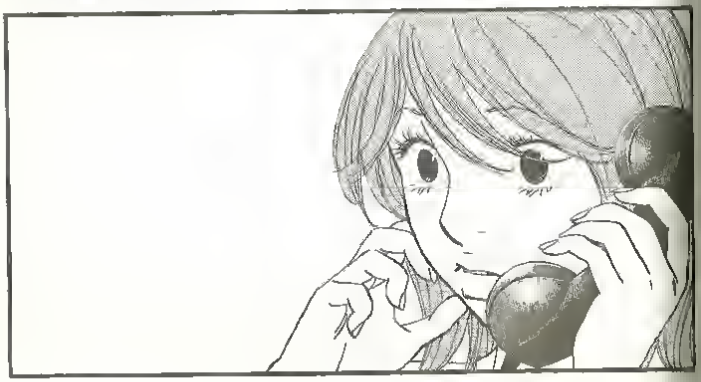

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LIRI-SAN... MY NECK'S STARTING TO HURT...
HEIGHT DIFFERENCE: 25-30 CM.
MINE, TOO.
DON'T LOOK AT ME IN THE EYES!
WE CAN RIDE THE SUBWAY, BUT SINCE YOU'RE HERE ON VACATION, WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE THE FERRY INSTEAD?
YAY! I WANT TO RIDE THE FERRY!
MMM, SOUNDS GREAT.
SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO? IF YOU WANT CANTONESE FOOD, I KNOW A GOOD PLACE ON THE OPPOSITE SHORE.
YAY! I WANT PEKING DUCK!
MMM, SOUNDS GREAT.
SHE MISSES SOMEONE, YOU KNOW...
WELL... I CAN'T SAY SHE'S BURSTING WITH HAPPINESS.
IWAYA-SAN CAME TO OUR WEDDING.
LIP-SYNCED?
WELL, HOW ABOUT THAT? ...IS SHE DOING WELL?
SHE EVEN LIP-SYNCED A SONG FOR US!
...IS THAT SO?

HASUMI-SAAN
WELL, THANKS!
SHEI-KUN, I'M GOING OUT FOR A BIT.
TAKE YOUR TIME.
THANKS FOR INVITING US!
THIS IS FOR YOU--IT'S BABY POP NINGYOUYAKI*!
WE DECIDED TO TAKE YOU UP ON IT AND DROP IN!
*A FACE-SHAPED PANCAKE FILLED WITH RED BEAN PASTE. IT'S STANDARD IN JAPAN TO BRING GIFTS WHEN YOU VISIT SOMEONE.
EW, DON'T GIGGLE.
IT'S GOING PRETTY WELL... TEE HEE HEE!
HOW'S YOUR HONEYMOON?

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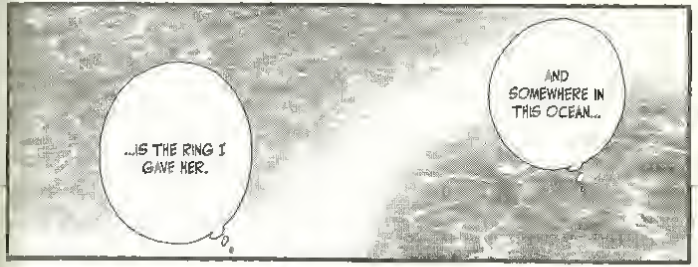

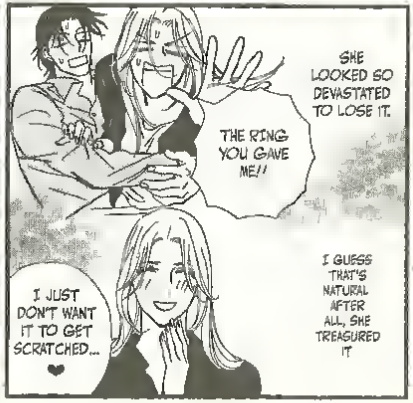
SHE LOOKED SO DEVASTATED TO LOSE IT.
THE RING YOU GAVE ME!!
I GUESS THAT'S NATURAL AFTER ALL, SHE TREASURED IT
I JUST DON'T WANT IT TO GET SCRATCHED... ❤

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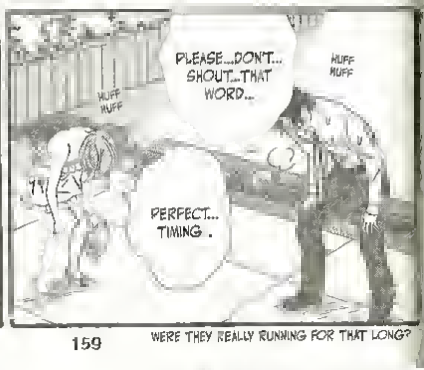
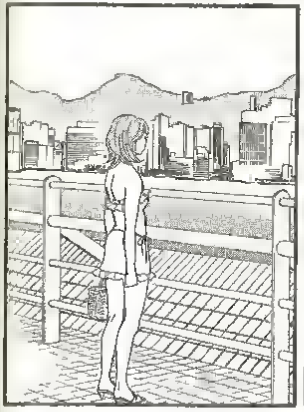
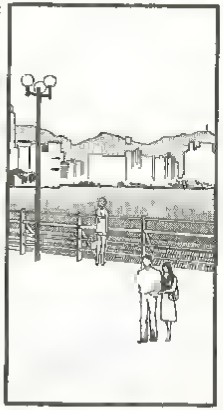
DAARLING!
IN A HURRY
WELL, WHO CARES? IT'S A HASSLE TALKING TO HER.
BESIDES, WHAT IF THE URIYAMAS SAW US?
BEFORE SHE NOTICES, I'D BETTER··



WELL, I GUESS THIS THIRD WHEEL SHOULD GET GOING.
HEY IT'S RUDE TO POINT AT YOUR HUSBAND.
WHAT? IF ANYONE HERE IS A THIRD WHEEL, IT'S HIM.





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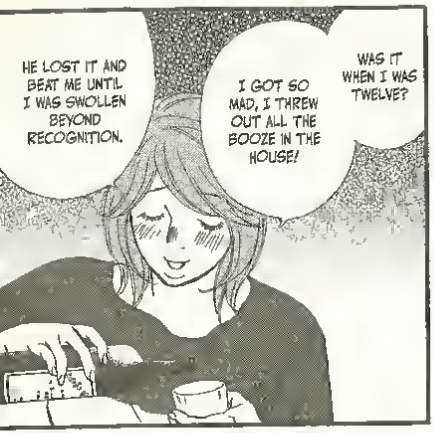
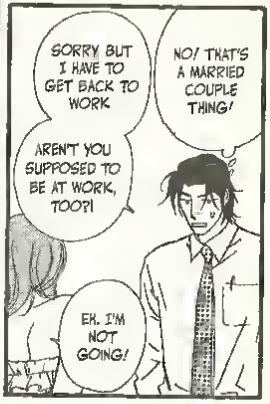
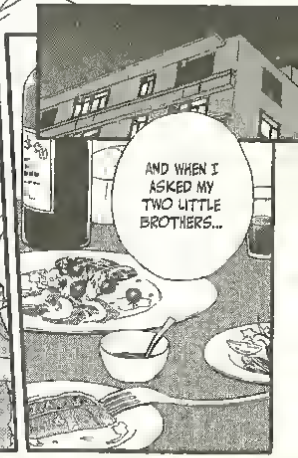

HE LOST IT AND BEAT ME UNTIL I WAS SWOLLEN BEYOND RECOGNITION.
I GOT SO MAD, I THREW OUT ALL THE BOOZE IN THE HOUSE!
WAS IT WHEN I WAS TWELVE?



BUT MY LITTLE BROTHERS LOOK REALLY GOOD.
...I COULDN'T GO TO THE DOCTOR. I THINK I GOT UGLY AFTER THAT
AND SINCE WE DIDN'T HAVE MONEY...
...

GOOD OL' HASUMI...



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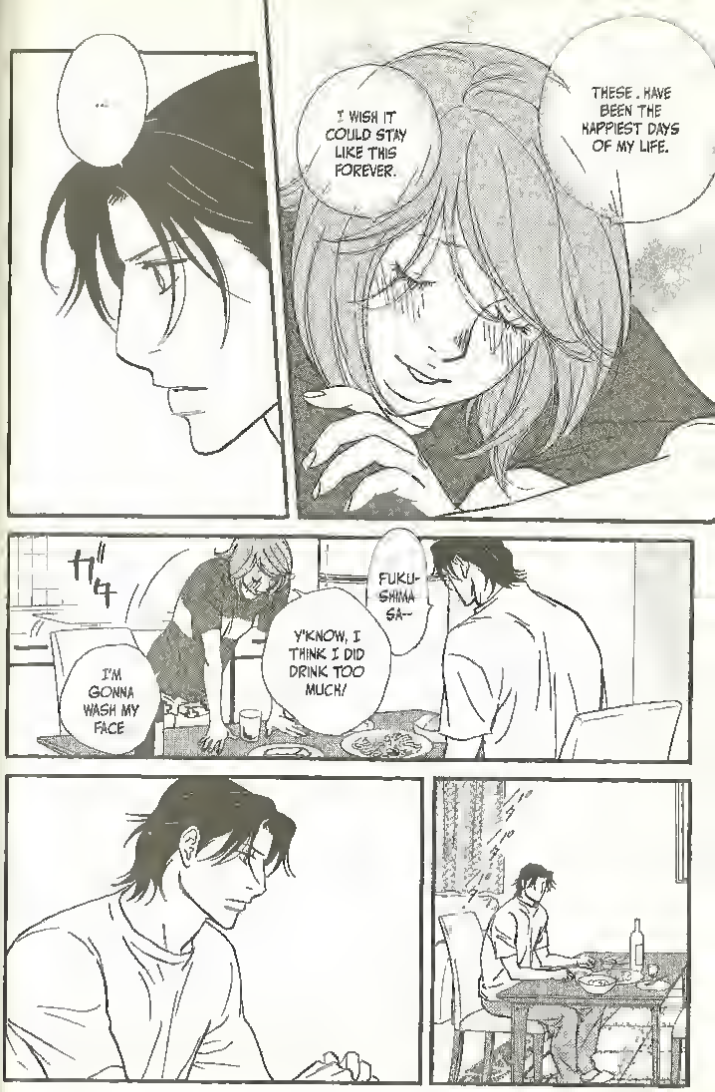
ARE YOU SICK?
...I'M FINE.
FUKUSHIMA-SAN..?
..FUKU-SHIMA-SAN.
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE LIVING HERE, BUT..
...I HAVE TO TELL YOU THIS.
I'M GOING TO MARRY IWAYA-SAN.
I CAN'T LET YOU STAY HERE ANYMORE.


...
I WISH IT COULD STAY LIKE THIS FOREVER.
THESE . HAVE BEEN THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF MY LIFE.
I'M GONNA WASH MY FACE
Y'KNOW, I THINK I DID DRINK TOO MUCH!
FUKU-SHIMA SA--

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WHAT?
I HATED HIM.
I WANTED TO GET OUT, AND I PROMISED MYSELF I'D DO ANYTHING TO BE HAPPY.
I ALWAYS WISHED HE WOULD, BUT HE WAS, LIKE, INDESTRUCTIBLE.
AND I WOULD... DO ANYTHING... TO BE HAPPY.
YEAH. I WAS GOING TO SHOW HIM.
SNIFF
AND THEN, TO GET BACK AT HIM, I'D SHOW HIM HOW HAPPY I WAS.
WIPE WIPE

IF YOU MUST, YOU CAN EVEN TELL IWAYA-SAN.
BUT..
ABOUT THAT FIRST NIGHT... I PROMISE, I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU
I DON'T INTEND TO LOVE ANY WOMAN BUT HER.
...MY DAD...
...JUST DIED.

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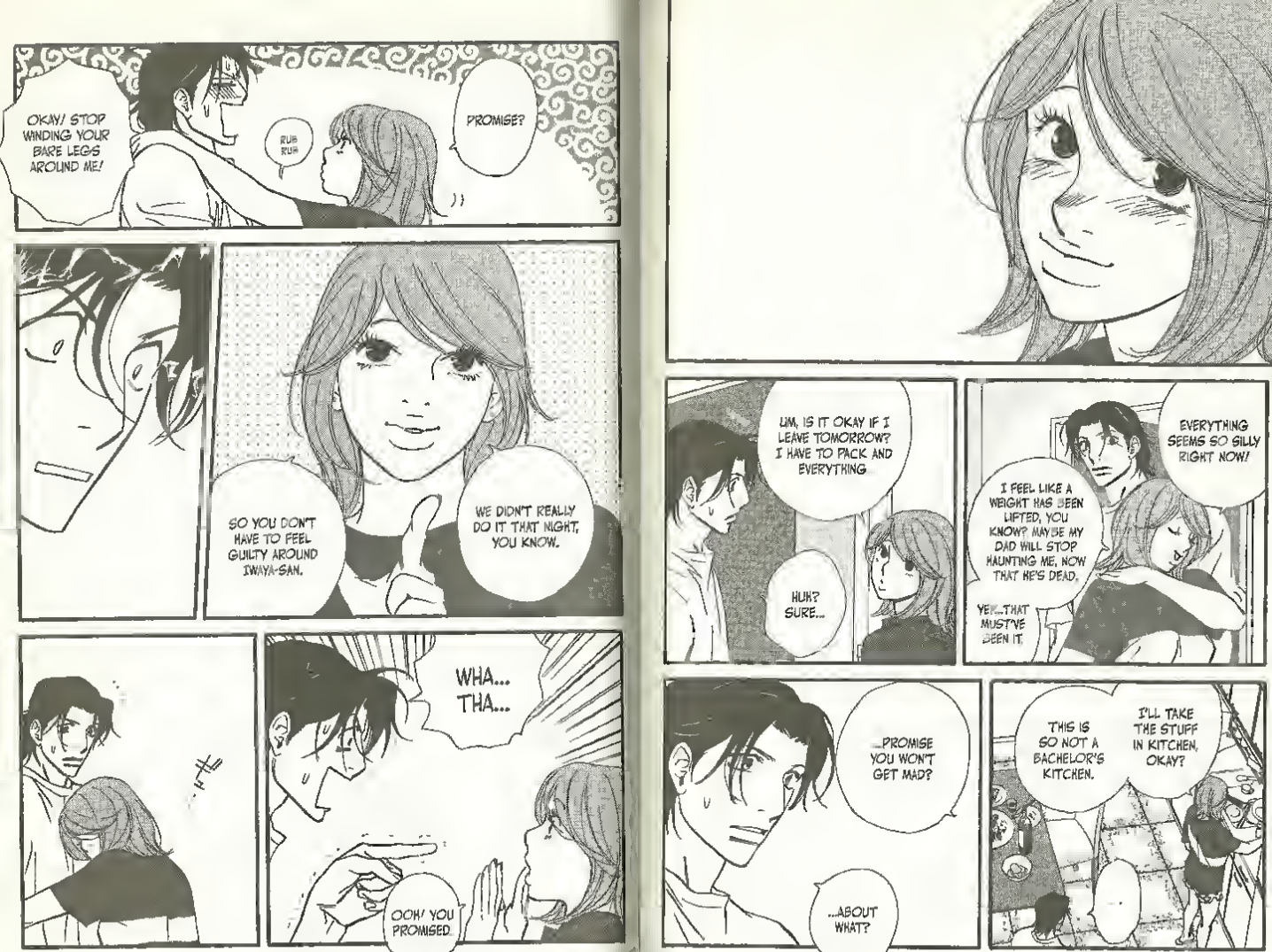
UM, IS IT OKAY IF I LEAVE TOMORROW? I HAVE TO PACK AND EVERYTHING.
HUH? SURE...
EVERYTHING SEEMS SO SILLY RIGHT NOW!
I FEEL LIKE A WEIGHT HAS BEEN LIFTED, YOU KNOW? MAYBE MY DAD WILL STOP HAUNTING ME, NOW THAT HE'S DEAD.
YEK...THAT MUST'VE BEEN IT.
...PROMISE YOU WON'T GET MAD?
...ABOUT WHAT?
THIS IS SO NOT A BACHELOR'S KITCHEN.
I'LL TAKE THE STUFF IN KITCHEN, OKAY?
OKAY! STOP WINDING YOUR BARE LEGS AROUND ME!
RUB RUB
PROMISE?
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEEL GUILTY AROUND IWAYA-SAN.
WE DIDN'T REALLY DO IT THAT NIGHT, YOU KNOW.
WHA... THA...
OOH! YOU PROMISED.

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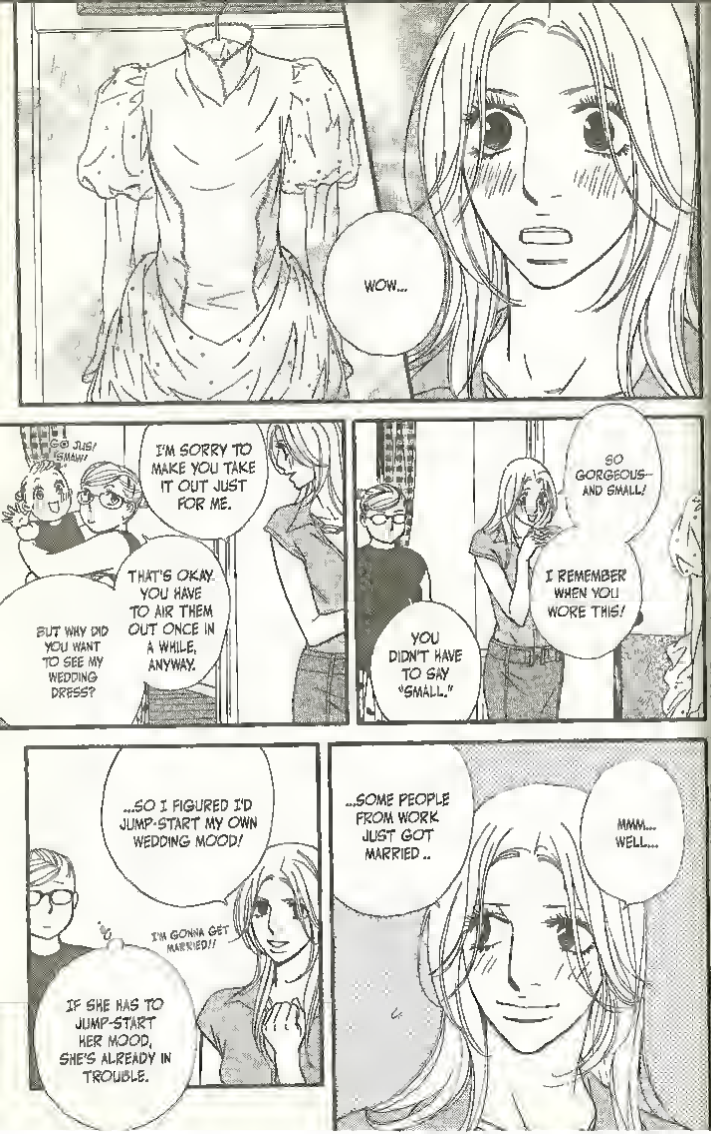
WOW...
I'M SORRY TO MAKE YOU TAKE IT OUT JUST FOR ME.
JUST SMASH!!
THAT'S OKAY. YOU HAVE TO AIR THEM OUT ONCE IN A WHILE, ANYWAY.
BUT WHY DID YOU WANT TO SEE MY WEDDING DRESS?
SO GORGEOUS— AND SMALL!
I REMEMBER WHEN YOU WORE THIS!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO SAY "SMALL."
...SO I FIGURED I'D JUMP-START MY OWN WEDDING MOOD!
I'M GONNA GET MARRIED!!
IF SHE HAS TO JUMP-START HER MOOD, SHE'S ALREADY IN TROUBLE.
...SOME PEOPLE FROM WORK JUST GOT MARRIED ..
MMM... WELL...

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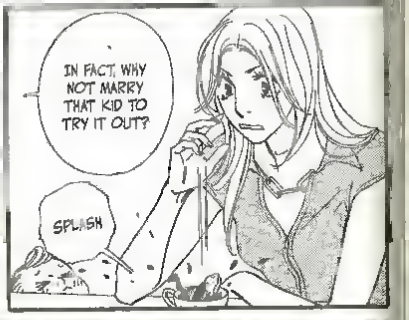
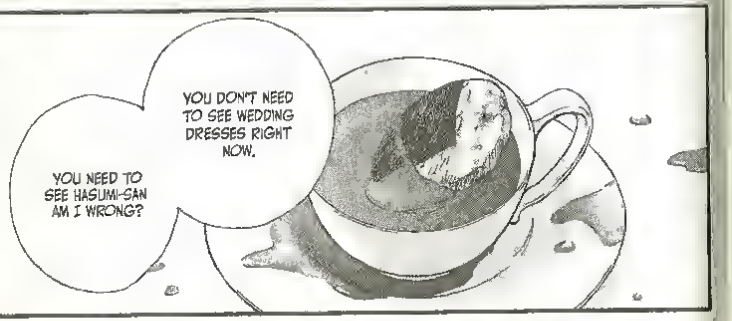
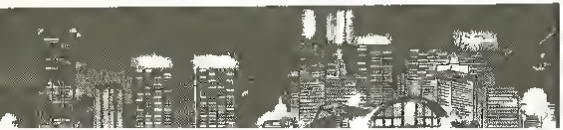
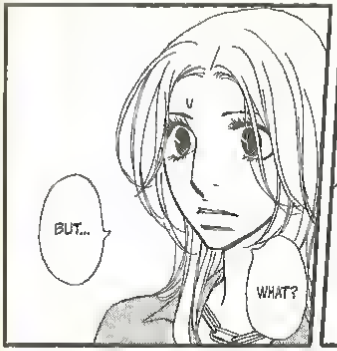
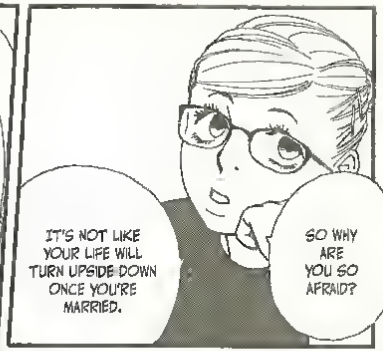
SURE YOUR LIFESTYLE CHANGES, BUT NO MORE THAN GETTING TRANSFERRED OR HAVING A ROOMMATE
LIKE HOW YOU LIVE WITH THAT KID. THAT'S NORMAL FOR YOU NOW, ISN'T IT?
B-BUT LIVING TOGETHER AND MARRIAGE ARE DIFFERENT/ AREN'T THEY?
NOT REALLY.

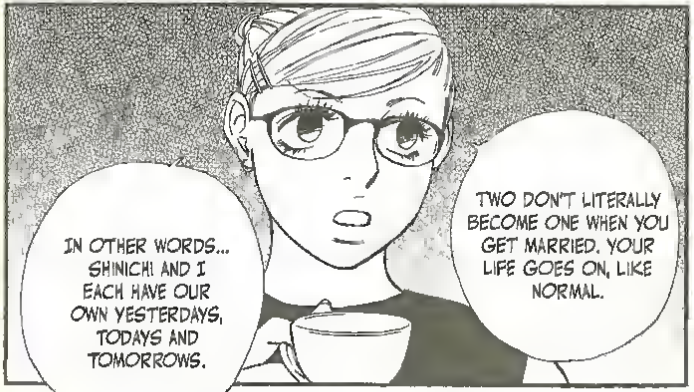











IN OTHER WORDS... SHINICHI AND I EACH HAVE OUR OWN YESTERDAYS, TODAYS AND TOMORROWS.
TWO DON'T LITERALLY BECOME ONE WHEN YOU GET MARRIED. YOUR LIFE GOES ON, LIKE NORMAL.

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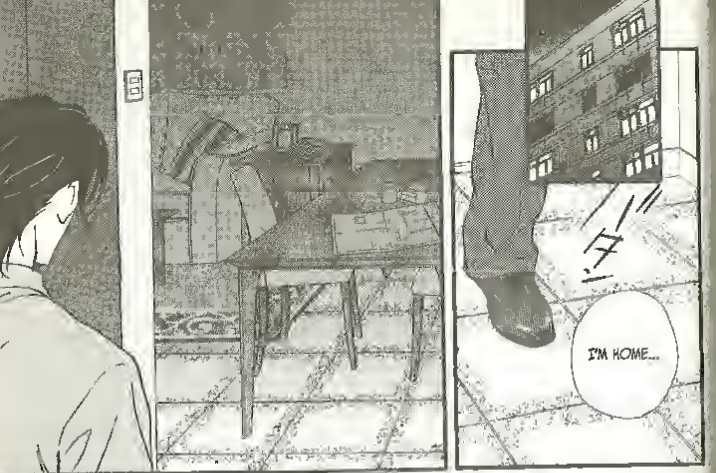

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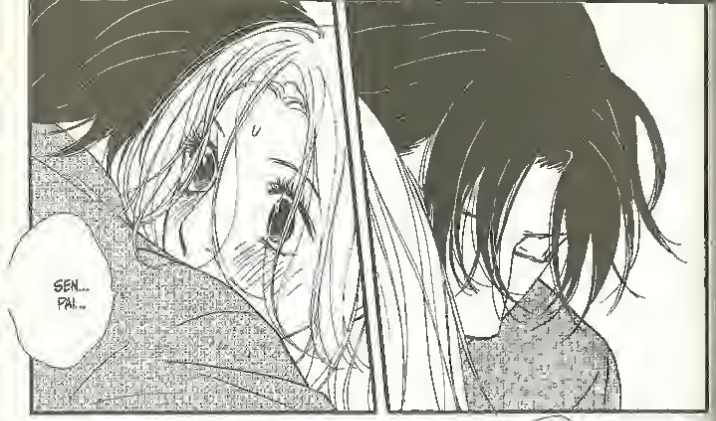

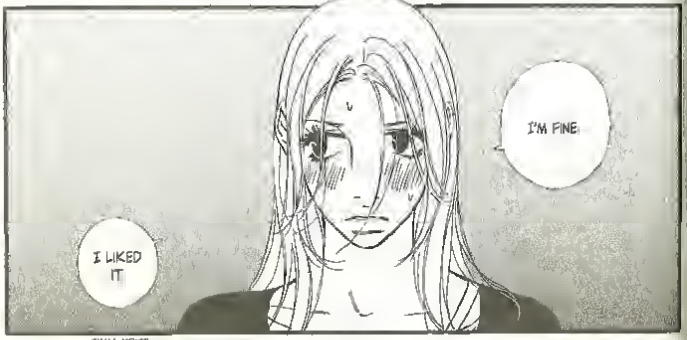

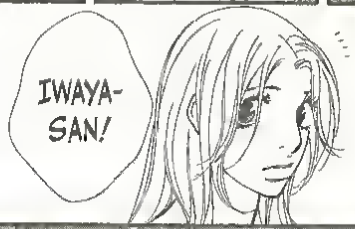

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IT'S FROM THAT SHOW IN CHINA.
AT THE AIRPORT DID SOMEONE TAKE IT BY MISTAKE?
HUH? NO... HMM...
HEY, DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS IS?
IN THE PICTURE?
ISN'T SHE THE GIRL WHO PICKED UP TAKESHI THAT TIME?
MAYBE...IT LOOKS LIKE HER...
DO YOU KNOW THEM?
OKAY
CLATTER
IS HE EVEN HERE TODAY?
THEN I'LL JUST PUT IT IN WITH TAKESHI'S FOR NOW.
BLEH. TYPICAL.
HE STOPPED BY EARLIER, BUT HE'S GONE NOW.

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HOW TO PLAY WITH PALM-SIZED MOMO!
INSTRUCTIONS BY SUMIRE IWAYA
① TICKLE IT WITH YOUR FINGER.
HEE HEE!
② DRIP CANDLE WAX ON IT.
*WITH ADULT SUPERVISION, OF COURSE
③ WATER TORTURE
THESE GAMES ARE DANGEROUS (IN MANY WAYS), SO PLEASE DON'T TRY ANY OF THEM!
OR SHOULD I SAY SORRY TO EVERYONE WHO CAN'T GET THEIR HANDS ON ONE?
HEH.

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thank you so much IceSea and SkitzoMartyr
thanks to you
two we were
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Kimi Wa Petto
Scans By
SkitzoMartyr
IceSea